Murder raps upheld vs Pacificador bodyguards

STORY ON PAGE A2

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
website: www.inq7.net

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, February 26, 2002 ★ 44 pages / 4 sections / vol.17 / no. 80 ₱15

THE TORCH for freedom won by ordinary people showing extraordinary courage. EDWIN BACASMAS

Cardinal says letting Erap leave 'stupid'

ONLY prayer power, no people power at the Edsa Shrine, for the first time in 16 years. JOAN BONDOC

Msgr. Soc: Edsa Shrine is for praying for peace

By Armand N. Nocum

THE CHURCH is for praying, just as the kitchen is for cooking.

With this simple syllogism, a visibly irritated Auxiliary Bishop Socrates B. Villegas yesterday defended the decision of the Archdiocese of Manila to ban political rallies at the historic Edsa Shrine, also known as the Shrine of Mary, Queen of Peace.

Villegas said Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin was right to "protect the sacredness" of the shrine.

Asked to comment on the criticism, Villegas, who is also rector of the shrine, shot back with a question of his own: "What is the Church for?"

When this reporter replied that it was for prayer and meditation, Villegas said: "Prayer. It's common sense . . . (just as) the kitchen is for cooking."

On Sunday, activist priest Fr. Joe Dizon, spokesperson of the PlunderWatch group, had condemned Villegas for banning rallies at the shrine, saying it was not only a place for "spiritual worship" but an "arena for political struggle."

He said the shrine would not have been erected if the people did not rise up to "do a very political thing" in ousting the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos 16 years ago.

Villegas said there was no doubt that a political event, People Power I, led to the raising of the shrine but added that

MSGR.SOC/A14

Erap party slams 'elitist' homily

By Armand N. Nocum and Volt Contreras

"STUPID," "*Kalokohan*" (*crazy*).

So said Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin yesterday of the proposals to allow ousted President Joseph Estrada to leave for the United States for knee surgery.

"If we made a mistake in allowing a dictator to flee in the name of health, shall we do it all over again? To err is human. To forgive is divine but to repeat is stupid," Sin said at a Mass marking the 16th anniversary of People Power I.

The dictator Sin was referring to was Ferdinand Marcos, who fled Malacañang at the height of the People Power I in 1986 for Hawaii where he died three years later. Marcos was afflicted with lupus.

Estrada, detained since April 2001 on plunder charges, has appealed to the Sandiganbayan to let him travel on humanitarian grounds, invoking his right to be treated by a doctor of his choice.

Sin, a key player in the first and second People Power, said, "Justice without mercy is unchristian. But mercy without justice is *kalokohan.*" Which statement was greeted with applause by government officials and civic and religious leaders attending the Mass at the Edsa Shrine.

It was Sin's first statement against

CARDINAL/A14

EDWIN BACASMAS

THREE Presidents at the People Power Monument, each bearing a message to remember. From President Macapagal: The real People Power III is the war on poverty. Ex-Presidents Ramos and Aquino: Too much people power bad for the country.

GMA: New People Power enemy is poverty

By Dona Pazzibugan, Agnes E. Donato and Gerald G. Lacuarta

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday called on all Filipinos to mount another People Power campaign, but this time against poverty.

"The new People Power's enemy will not be a dictatorial regime or a corrupt government. The new People Power's enemy will be the scourge of poverty," the President declared at the 16th anniversary of Edsa I.

She said the battlefield will no longer be on Edsa but in shanties, farms and the country's poorer regions like Basilan, "where the ultimate enemy is not the Abu Sayyaf, but poverty." She said 16 years after the first People Power, many Filipinos remained poor.

Ms Macapagal said every individual must do his share to change the culture of corruption, through simple deeds like refusing to pay bribes for traffic violations or getting government clearance. Citing activist singer Jim Paredes' campaign to solicit pledges from individuals, the President contrib-

GMA/A14

ALTERNATIVE EDSA RITES

Cops stop militants

By TJ Burgonio, Agnes E. Donato, Philip C. Tubeza and PDI bureaus

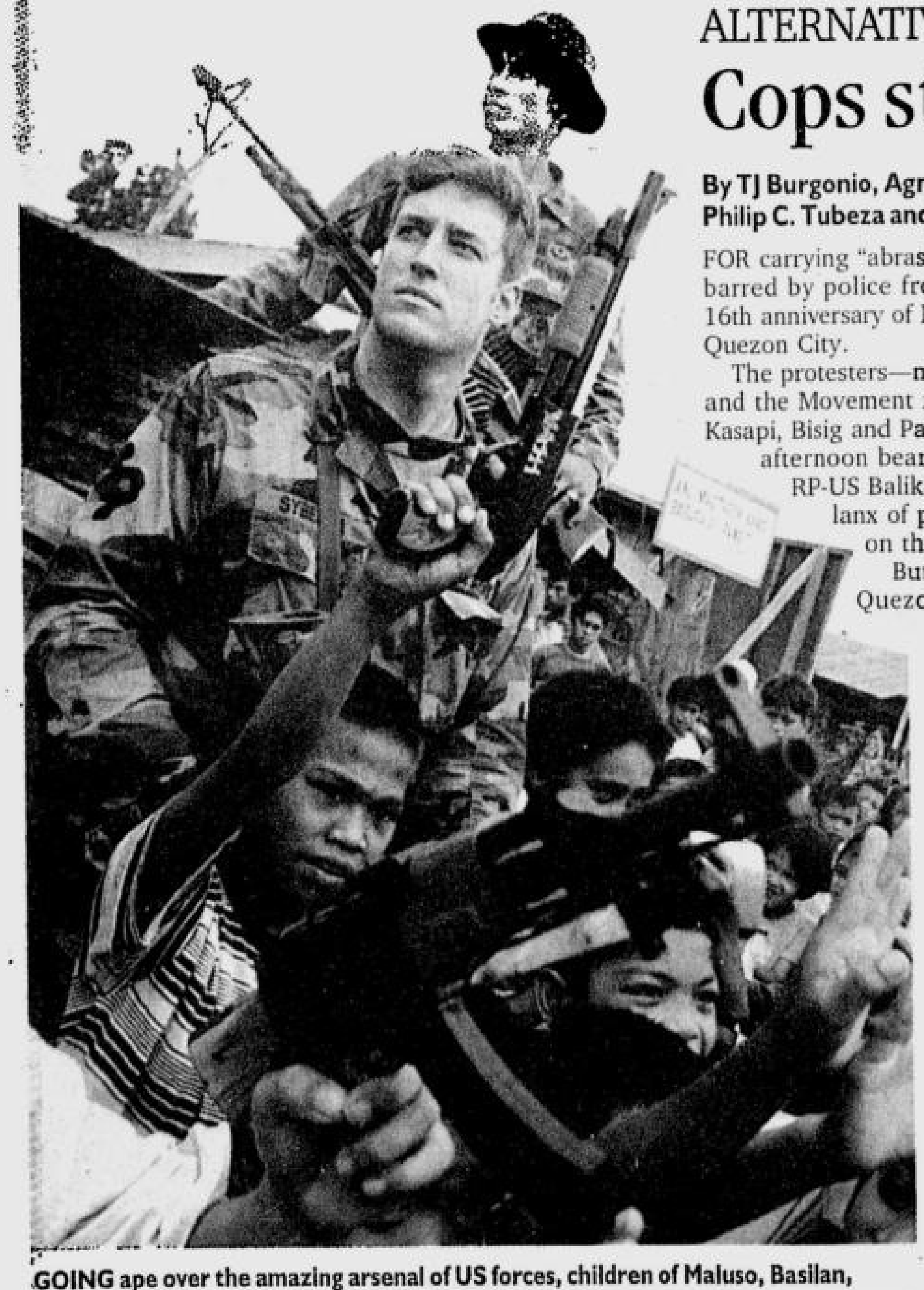
FOR carrying "abrasive" streamers, militant protesters were barred by police from joining the commemoration of the 16th anniversary of Edsa I at the People Power Monument in Quezon City.

The protesters—members of the party-list group Akbayan and the Movement for the Advancement of Student Power, Kasapi, Bisig and Pandayan—marched down Edsa yesterday afternoon bearing streamers denouncing the ongoing RP-US Balikatan 02-1. They were stopped by a phalanx of policemen at the approach of the flyover on the corner of Edsa and Santolan Road.

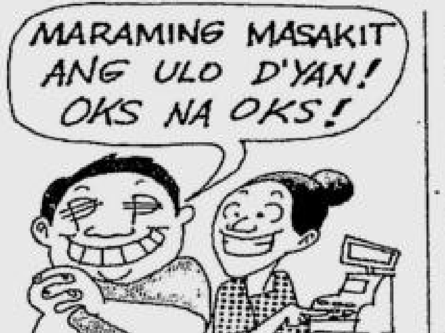
But other groups—one from a barangay in Quezon City and another composed of supporters of Caloocan City Mayor Rey Malonzo—were allowed to pass through.

"This is discrimination. Why? Because we are not carrying placards saying 'We Love Gloria?'" a fuming Akbayan Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales told

COPS/A15



GOING ape over the amazing arsenal of US forces, children of Maluso, Basilan, brandish their own weapons of mass distraction. VAL HANDUMON


MARAMING MASAKIT ANG ULO D'YAN! OKS NA OKS!

Drug firms early winners in war games

By Ayan C. Mellejor
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—This pharmaceutical firm is on a roll, thanks to the rigors of the RP-US war games in Zamboanga City.

A surge in the demand for pain

DRUG/A4

Dig this, a taxi without a cabbie is no fantasy

LONDON—A shiny white pod that began road tests in Wales this month may well be the taxi of the future.

The pod, known as ULTra (for Urban Light Transport), could make driver-free transport a reality and not just the stuff of futuristic fantasy.

"It will be the first in the world," said Richard Treychenne, director of business development at ULTra's maker, Advanced Transport Systems Limited.

The pod—which seats up to four passengers—is the brainchild of Bristol University's Martin Lowson, who is no stranger to making science fiction dreams come true. His past projects include the Apollo Moon-landing program in the United States.

The first stage of the ULTra project will have 30 pods circling the Cardiff

DIG/A4

'AFP 20 YEARS BEHIND'

'Array of hi-tech US gear amazing'

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

ISABELA, Basilan—It was a marvel to behold: the communications equipment of US Special Forces that enable them to maintain round-the-clock contact with their headquarters in Hawaii and their men deployed in different parts of Basilan.

"What we see here is an amazing array of high technology equipment that they were able to assemble in so short a time," National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said yesterday during a visit to the 103rd Army Brigade headquarters in Tabiawan.

Lt. Col. David Maxwell, battalion commander of the 1st Special Force Group handling the Green Berets, explained that their equipment could directly communicate with their higher headquarters either in Okinawa or Hawaii, "24 hours a day."

"This equipment provides us the ability to communicate with headquarters and with our teams on assignments in different municipalities here by phone and computer access to the Internet,"

ARRAY/A14

Second FRONT PAGE

HUSTISYA RIN, SA WAKAS!

Murder raps vs Pacificador guards upheld

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE SUPREME Court has upheld the conviction of five bodyguards of former Assemblyman Arturo Pacificador, who were all found guilty of killing seven campaign managers of Pacificador's political rival, Evelio Javier, in 1984.

The SC First Division, chaired by Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., affirmed without modification the March 7, 1996 decision of the San Jose, Antique Regional Trial Court which found the accused "guilty beyond reasonable doubt" in Criminal Case No. 3714.

The SC said the trial court did not err in convicting the five bodyguards of seven counts of murder and one count of frustrated murder each because "the prosecution ably established the elements of murder in each of the seven killings (and the) frustrated murder."

Convicted were Staff Sgt. Domingo Dalmacio, C2C Reynaldo Alipala, PFC Vicente Vegafria, P/Cpl. Hector Fullon and Pat. Lorenzo Mingote.

They were each sentenced to 128 years in prison and ordered to jointly indemnify the victims' heirs in the amount of P573,510.

For the frustrated murder charge, the trial court, applying the Indeterminate Sentence Law, also sentenced each of the five to imprisonment of from 9 to 17 years, and to pay P60,000 for the hospitalization expenses of Luna Sanchez, one of the victims who survived the ambush.

A sixth accused bodyguard, Sgt. Enrico Cabanero, died while in detention in San Jose, Antique, before the trial court ruling was promulgated in 1996.

The high court's decision also did not cover Pacificador, the accused mastermind, who fled in 1986 before he could be arraigned.

He later surrendered and is now confined in an Antique jail while undergoing trial in the same case.

Pacificador's son, Rodolfo, was also implicated in the ambush of Javier, the then governor of Antique, on Feb. 11, 1986 but he is still at large and is believed to have fled to Canada.

The SC decision was written by Associate Justice Bernardo Pardo.

It was promulgated on Feb. 6 but released only yesterday.

The decision was concurred in by Davide and Associate Justice Consuelo Yñares-Santiago.

Associate Justices Reynato Puno and Santiago Kapunan inhibited themselves. Puno said he had participated in the case while a deputy justice minister during the Marcos regime. Kapunan said he was "related to one of the parties."

In upholding the trial court's ruling, the SC found that the murder had been proved beyond reasonable doubt by the prosecution; that the crimes were attended by conspiracy, and the aggravating circumstances of treachery and evident premeditation were present.

All three grounds were likewise invoked by the accused in asking for a reversal of their conviction.

The SC also junked their defense that the information, or complaint sheet, was defective in that it contained several crimes instead of one.

Under SC rules, the information should contain only one charge or crime—each act of murder and frustrated murder should have a separate information.

But the SC said the five had failed to quash the information before the arraignment.

"Through accused-appellants' failure to object to the duplicitous charge, they effectively waived their right against multiple offenses in a single information," the SC said.

With the waiver of the objection, the five could be found guilty of as many offenses as charged in the information and proved in the trial, it said.

Court records showed that on April 6, 1986, state prosecutor Tirso Velasco indicted Pacificador, Cabanero and the five accused-appellants for the killings of Rhium, Aldrick and Plaridel Sanchez, Mamerto Zaldivar, Clemente Samualde, Armelito Tamboong and Abner Varon.

Luna Sanchez was wounded but survived the ambush.

Rhium was the chair of the Antique branch of the Nacionalista Party to which the charismatic young leader, Javier, had belonged.

Pacificador, the assemblyman representing the lone district of Antique, was running for reelection under the Marcos-led Kilusang Bagong Lipunan.

He was being challenged by Javier who was being supported by the then governor of Antique, Enrique Zaldivar.

On May 13, 1984, the day before the Batasang Pambansa polls, the seven victims were busy campaigning for Javier.

They were on the way to San Jose town in Zaldivar's Toyota Tama-raw FX.

While crossing Pangpang bridge in the town of Sibalom, the Javier group saw a vehicle coming from the opposite direction. They signaled it to stop, and the other vehicle backed up from the bridge.

Once across the bridge, however, the FX found itself blocked by three vehicles. It was already past 11 p.m.

Two armed men—later identified as Vegafria and Alipala—alighted from one of the three vehicles and made as if to inspect the FX.

The two men walked away from the FX, but minutes later, bullets from Armalite rifles rained on the vehicle. The firing lasted for about 10 minutes.

CHEAP REFILLED HP INKJET CARTRIDGES
- HP-GRADE INKS FROM U.S.A.
- 100% HP QUALITY PRINTING
- 100% HP-COMPATIBLE

V-MAX INK REFILLS
HP Inkjet Refilling Service
7506008 7589268
9594 Kalayaan Ave., Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati City

IMPULSE SEALER
1,100
Other sizes available
14 Inches FOOT TYPE P8,900
8 Inches HAND SEALER
Sole Distributor: COLENT ENTERPRISE CO.
Suite 200 2/F, Del Monte Mansion Bldg., Del Monte Ave. cor. Speaker Perez St., Quezon City Tel nos. 740-3815, 411-2395 to 98, 411-7457 412-4317, 414-9890, 742-8139 Fax no. 411-2399

We supply Best Hand Pallet...
HAVE STOCK
2 Tons P 12,000
3 Tons P 12,500
1 YEAR GUARANTEE
HEAVY DUTY FOR FACTORY USE ...
☑ BRAND NEW ☑ HEAVY DUTY ☑ SPARE PARTS ☑ SERVICE
MEGA PALLET CALL: ☎ 8140935

UNMETERED
INTERNET ACCESS FOR ONLY
₱1,980
MONTHLY ABSOLUTELY NO EXCESS CHARGES
sign up online at www.asiagate.net
ASIAGATE 752-4969 or 77

Cut this Ad worth 1 FREE YoYo Balloon Coffee Mug
BALLOON BUSINESS!
- WORKSHOP SKED.: EVERY WED. or SAT.
- RESERVATION REQUIRED.
- WITH FREE 2 YOYO BALLOONS!

C.B.E.
YoYo Balloons
(Located at SM Supermalls)
ENTRANCE DECOR
ONLY P22,500.00 INITIAL CAPITAL AND YOU CAN START YOUR OWN BALLOON BUSINESS RIGHT AWAY!
INCLUDES:
- Starter Kit: 1,000 + Imported U.S. Balloons (Different Sizes, Colors & Shapes)
- Balloon Pumps, (BIG AND SMALL)
- Balloon Printing Set
- Balloon Sticks and Cups, Clip Sticks
- Giant Balloon Drop Bags w/ Balloons
- Training Workshop Conducted by U.S. Trained Balloon Experts
- Certificate, Free Lunch and Snack
- Pictures, Brochures and more
- Practicum at 5 Star Hotel or other venues

OPTIONAL: Imported Electric Inflator P7,500.00 each
SALE! - 11" Rnd. U.S.A PRL. Balloons (P4.50 each) - 5" Rnd. U.S.A STD. Balloons (P1.95 each)
WE WILL SHOW YOU HOW WITH OUR FREE WORKSHOP!
SUBMIT THIS AD WHEN YOU PAY AND WE WILL GIVE YOU FREE 1 YOYO BALLOON COFFEE MUG.
Call or Visit: YOYO BALLOONS 10-D Xaviervilla Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Philippines Tel. Nos.: 922-5543 • 426-2973 920-1440 • Fax No.: 922-0068
YOU CAN USE YOUR OWN TRADE NAME! NO NEED TO PAY ANY FRANCHISE FEE!
VALID UNTIL 30 MARCH 2002
THIS ADVERTISEMENT APPEARS EVERY TUESDAY

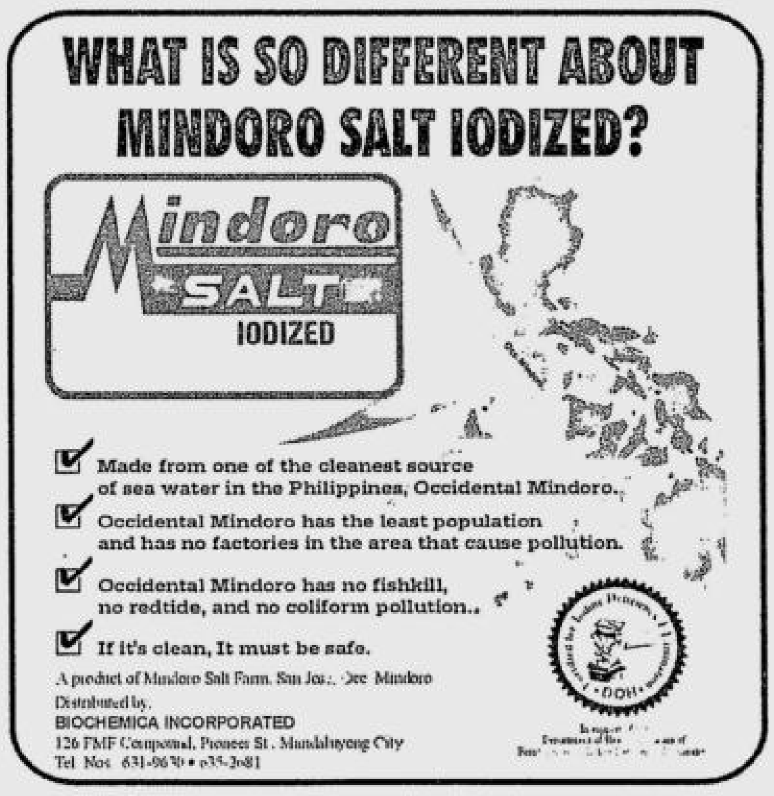
Panasonic PABX
100% BRAND NEW
SPECIAL PACKAGE UNITS
1 PABX (3) Tels. by (8) LOCAL CAPACITY
1 PANASONIC TELEPHONE OPERATOR
7 SINGLE LINE PHONE
P22,000!
(6) Tel. Lines by (16) locals / (12) Tel. Lines by (64) locals
PABX Sales Department Meeting Room Voice mail Cellular Phone Facsimile Machine Service Department
- brand new products
- 1-year warranty on parts and service

12 years of providing Outstanding Communication Products & Services
intel Communication Corp.
Suite 451 RSM Building, Sta Cruz, Manila
Tel. 733-2549 • 736-1206 • 733-0697

100% Brand New & Recon COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
₱12,000. ONLY LIQUID TYPE SAVIN 780 220 V, 60Hz
₱16,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3329 220 V, 60Hz
₱46,500. ONLY BRAND NEW DIGITAL COPIER + PRINTER 9912-A
100% GUARANTEED! KATUN TONERS & PARTS FOR USE IN SHARP, CANON, RICOH, MINOLTA, TOSHIBA, SELEX, MITA, GESTETNER, RISO, KONICA, ETC.
Other Models Available FT 3013, 4418, 4222, 2260, Aficio 200 FT 4015, 4018, Savin 880, 7230, 9250
COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Nr. NU)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 • 781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Outlets: Cabanatuan: (0918)7090934 • Cebu: 253-2402
Tarlac: (0918)-5738497
CHEAPER REFILL INK AND CARTRIDGES FOR MOST COMPUTER PRINTER MODELS!

A Heart Attack Is FATAL
BE READY IF IT STRIKES!
- Handy and Portable
- Ideal for travel
- Imported from U.S.A.

OXYLITE PORTABLE OXYGEN
fareastmedical.net
SM MANILA 5TH Floor 484-1471
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
CEBU 262 32 39
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800 40-93
GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN Shoppesville 721-34-87


WHAT IS SO DIFFERENT ABOUT MINDORO SALT IODIZED?
Mindoro SALT IODIZED
☑ Made from one of the cleanest source of sea water in the Philippines, Occidental Mindoro.
☑ Occidental Mindoro has the least population and has no factories in the area that cause pollution.
☑ Occidental Mindoro has no fishkill, no redtide, and no coliform pollution.
☑ If it's clean, It must be safe.
A product of Mindoro Salt Farm, San Jose, Occ. Mindoro
Distributed by,
BIOCHEMICA INCORPORATED
126 FMF Compound, Pioneer St., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 631-9630 • 635-2681

THE MOST POWERFUL WIRELESS PHONE + RADIO PHONE!
20-40 KMS P60,000.00
husky 7
- FULL DUPLEX
- FAX COMPATIBLE
- PABX COMPATIBLE
- MODEM COMPATIBLE
- SWR ALARM
- 2-WAY PAGING INTERCOM
- CONTINUES DUTY CYCLE

50-100 KMS
CT-8
- STANDING CHARGER
- HI - MH BATTERY PACK

husky FRS SMALLEST STRONGEST MOST FEATURES/ FUNCTIONS
P120,000.00
NTC TYPE APPROVE / ACCEPTED
*Repair all kinds of wireless phones DEALERS WELCOME
HUSKY MULTI-PRODUCT INTERNATIONAL
WORLDWIDE COMMUNICATIONS INC.
NTC CASE 95-053 under RA5321, RA7859
415 McArthur Highway, Malinta, Valenzuela City
Tels. 432-2339 / 432-2346 / 432-2359 / 432-2351 / 432-1126 Fax: 432-2222 Email: husky@pacific.net.ph

HONGKONG $159 SINGAPORE $302
KUALA LUMPUR $363 PACKAGE
BANGKOK $251 *with 1 LUNCH & DINNER
TICKET ONLY:

	US$		US$		US$
HONGKONG	121	SEOUL	396	SFO	675
BANGKOK	226	FUKUOKA	430	VANCOUVER	750
SINGAPORE	226	KUALA	400	NEW YORK	808
OSAKA	350	TAIPEI	290	SYDNEY	440
TOKYO	409	HONOLULU	630	EUROPE	818
		LOS ANGELES	675		

SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL:
MAGELLAN WORLD TRAVEL, INC. PTAA
TELS:522-4321 * 521-9381 *526-5652 to 53 *522-4809 to 11
Fax# 521-0190 * 526-5658

Top of the line Pumps and Filters
JACUZZI® PUMPS AND FILTERS
Best Prices Guaranteed
CYGNET LASER SAND FILTERS
World renowned name for superior product design and performance, Jacuzzi is the top choice when it comes to whirlpool batch equipment and supplies.
CFR 50 ELEMENT FILTER D.E FILTER
CYCLONE-JET PUMP INNO-TECH
For more information contact: Authorized Distributor
amici AMICI MERCANTILE INC.
86 MAYON ST., QUEZON CITY
TELS. NO. 740-6675 • 740-6676 FAX NO. 740-6677

Upgrade Your PHONE... Improve Your BUSINESS!
We welcome DEALERS!
5-LINE PHONE Only P3,800 • WSM-5100 • Works like PABX
4-LINE PHONE Only P1,500 • WK-408 • With Built-in Intercom
INTERPHONE Only P1,800 • For 6, 8 or 10 Interphone Combination system
also provides 2,3,4 line phones • PABX/key telephone • Fashion Phone • Speaker Phone • Hands-free • Ear Phone
EverTel EVERTEL PHILS., CORP. Tel. Nos. 749-5464/66 • 711-5073 • 732-9432/33 Fax No. 732-9441

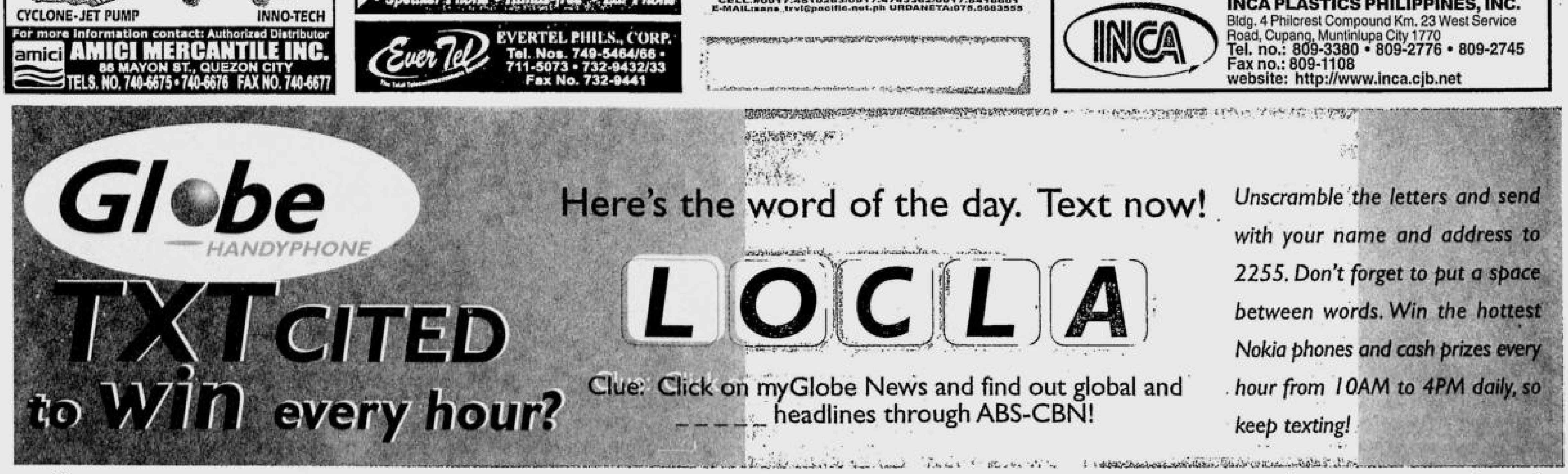
SPECIAL PACKAGES PROMO
HONG KONG $160 IMPERIAL $155 WINDSOR $150 PANDA
BANGKOK $245 4D 3N VIA MS $245 BANGKOK PALACE $255 BAIYOKE SUITE
PROMO KUALA $ 360
SAIGON $ 293
SINGAPORE $287 COPTHORNE 4D3N $320 4D/3N GRAND CENTRAL $287 SUMMERVIEW
BUDGET FARES

HONG KONG	$ 160	JAKARTA	$ 450
BANGKOK	$ 220	NEW YORK	$ 800
SINGAPORE	$ 225	BEGAWAN	$ 335
VANCOUVER	$ 735	TAIPEI	$ 315
OSAKA	$ 383	KUALA LUMPUR	$ 398
TOKYO	$ 395	TORONTO	$ 820
LAX	$ 630	SEOUL	$ 405

SINGAPORE + DAYTRIP MALAYSIA + DAYTRIP INDONESIA $ 345
SINGAPORE (2 NITES) KUALA LUMPUR (2 NITES) OVERLAND TOURS $ 365
SANS TRAVEL & TOURS
TEL.#:438.8227/439.5740/439.5760/913.9508/913.9560 CELL.#0917.4510283/0917.4743362/0917.8418801
E-MAIL:sans_trvl@pacific.net.ph URDANETA:075.5683555

INCA TRUCK BED EXTENDER
TRUCK BED EXTENDER
For Nissan, Mitsubishi, Isuzu, Ford Ranger, Toyota
- Long load? Add up to 2 ft. To your pickup's bed –instantly!!
- Durable one-piece rotomolded Polyethylene
- Easy to handle – weights only about 10 lbs. haul motorcycles, Furniture, Bikes, other long and bulky gear safely and easily! Mounting no drilling required. Extender easily attaches to screw mounted brackets... can be flipped forward when you need a smaller storage compartment or completely removed when you need full use of truck bed.

Also available from INCA PLASTICS:
INCA TRUCK BED LINERS
INCA UTILITY TOOLTAINERS
INCA INSULATED COOLTAINERS
INCA PLASTICS PHILIPPINES, INC.
Bldg. 4 Philcrest Compound Km. 23 West Service Road, Cupang, Muntinlupa City 1770
Tel. no.: 809-3380 • 809-2776 • 809-2745
Fax no.: 809-1108
website: http://www.inca.cjb.net


Globe HANDYPHONE
TXTCITED to win every hour?
Here's the word of the day. Text now!
L O C L A
Clue: Click on myGlobe News and find out global and _____ headlines through ABS-CBN!
Unscramble the letters and send with your name and address to 2255. Don't forget to put a space between words. Win the hottest Nokia phones and cash prizes every hour from 10AM to 4PM daily, so keep texting!

Another Abu captive owns up to beheadings

By TJ Burgonio

A LAND surveyor, who was held hostage by the Abu Sayyaf in 1994, has admitted being one of those seen in a video hacking at two other Abu Sayyaf captives, police said yesterday.

But Baylon Abines, who was implicated by self-confessed executioner Alfredo Peñaflor, alias "Jun," said he participated in the gruesome beheadings in December 1994 in Basilan under duress.

Abines, who was abducted by the Abu Sayyaf in November 1994 along with four other surveyors, said in an affidavit that he was forced at gunpoint to behead one of the two captives, police said. The video was shown on national television last week.

Abines said an Abu Sayyaf member, Jovenal Bruno, had pointed a gun to his head and ordered him to behead the captive, identified as Maluso barangay captain Solomon Mayang, or he himself would be killed.

Mayang did not die instantly from the hacking, prompting another bandit, known as Bangot, to deal the fatal blow, Abines said.

He said Bruno also ordered at gunpoint another land surveyor, identified as "Jun," to behead Mayang's son, Jonathan.

The beheadings took place at upper Mahayahay in Maluso, Basilan, on Dec. 25, 1994, a month after the land surveyors were abducted.

It was Bruno who shot the video of the beheadings.

Abines' affidavit, which he executed before a city prosecutor in Zamboanga City following his release in March 1995, corroborated recent statements that Peñaflor had made to police and during a television interview.

Peñaflor, who went to Basilan police on Feb. 21, admitted he was one of those seen in the video beheading the Abu Sayyaf captives. He tagged Abines as his accomplice. He remains in police custody.

The video, which was shown on national TV news, drew outraged reactions from many sectors.

Abines, Peñaflor and three other land surveyors were seized by the Abu Sayyaf bandits, led by one of their late leaders, Abdurajak Abubakar Janjalani, in Sumisip, Basilan, on Nov. 18, 1994. They were taken to different parts of Basilan and Sulu before being freed in March 1995.

Director Nestorio Gualberto, head of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, said police are now looking for Abines to strengthen the murder case that police intend to file against the Abu Sayyaf bandits for the beheadings this week.

Those to be charged are Bruno, Khaddafy Janjalani, Idris Jal, Benhari Nurani, Balling Samlah, Karim Akmanul, one T. Akmanul, Emikun Bohong, Kallam Saddipin, Eddie Lanjama and Upat Mata.

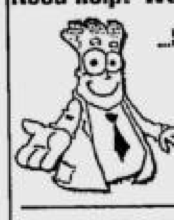
Mona Mayang, widow of Solomon Mayang and mother of Jonathan, had filed a complaint with the police against the Abu Sayyaf.

The bandits had earlier been charged with kidnap for ransom and serious illegal detention in Basilan in March 1995.

Gualberto said he was leaving it up to the prosecutors to decide whether to file charges against Abines and Peñaflor for the beheadings.

"Otherwise, they will be used as witnesses," he said.

Need Help? We fix all computer problems,
...specially computer VIRUS!
FAST & RELIABLE
ON-SITE SERVICE
Call our hotline today
PCMed 303-8888
Service & Support
Save this ad for your future requirements.



Flight Holidays
Tour Packages.. tour with us and see the difference!
"Let those that 'seek' Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee.." Psalms 40:16

ASIAN PACKAGES
Hong Kong 4D/3N $165
Hong Kong + 1 Nite Macau $185
Singapore 4D/3N via PR $288
Bangkok 4D/3N $235

SPECIAL PACKAGES
Singapore + Malaysia + Indonesia 4D/3N via PR $345
Singapore & Kuala Lumpur 5D/4N via PR $365
Bangkok 4D/3N via PR $278

HOLIDAY BLOCKINGS (March 28-31)
HONG KONG $390
BANGKOK $315
SINGAPORE $325

TICKET ONLY
Hong Kong $145
Bangkok $225
Singapore $235
Taipei $315
Seoul $415
Sydney $410
Tokyo $400
LAX $620
San Francisco $735
New York $800
Vancouver $725
Toronto $820
Europe $780

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & TOURS
Rm. 202 Doña Mercedes Bldg., San Andres St., Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos.: 536-9390 • 400-5017 • 338-3314
Telefax: 536-9390 Cell Nos.: 0917-9641200 • 0917-3832142
E-mail Address: flight1@info.com.ph

EXPAND YOUR TERRITORIES.
START YOUR OWN TRAVEL AGENCY.

ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW TO IMMIGRATE TO CANADA
Morning: 9AM - 12PM
Seminar dates: Mar. 13, 20, 27

SETTING UP YOUR OWN TRAVEL AGENCY
Morning: 8AM - 1PM
Seminar dates: Mar. 2, 9, 16
Afternoon: 1:30PM - 7 PM
Seminar dates: Mar. 1, 8, 15

TOUR PACKAGING FOR FREE TRAVEL & BIGGER PROFITS
1:30PM - 7 PM
Seminar Dates: Mar. 2, 9, 16
Fee: PHP 700.00/session • Free merienda • Free post seminar services

HARVEST CONSULTANCY AND TRAINING
2nd floor, 2002 San Juan Apts., Roxas Blvd. Cor. San Juan Sts., Pasay City, M.M.
Tel. 536-4549, 522-7402 • Fax 523-7840
E-mail: harvestct@i-manila.com.ph

P 288
eat all u can
lunch/dinner
PAPALINO'S
G/F., El Pueblo, ADB Ave., Cor., Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas, Pasig
Tel No: 632-7117, 632-7605

UNIVERSITY OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
and
Center for Research and Communication
invite you to a seminar on
US Military Presence in the Philippines: Domestic and International Political Implications
March 8, 2002 1:30 - 5:00 pm
UA&P Campus, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
For more information, please call Sol Ante or Ann Jue Chua at 634-2831 / Terit Sales at 634-5874 or email crcli@yahoo.com

WEB HOSTING FOR YOUR BUSINESS
The best hosting plans from the global leader in internet connectivity. End-to-end solutions in web hosting services. Fast, secure, reliable state-of-the art servers, Tier 1 Network.
Get this special promo for today only! FREE Web Hosting for 12 months!

E-COMMERCE HOSTING
Php3,600/month
FREE easy-to-use STORE building software, secure order forms

BUSINESS CARD PLAN
Php650/mo
1 FREE email
Guaranteed 99.9% uptime

WEB STARTER POWER BUILDER PACKAGE
Php15,000 plus Php1,950/mo
Start quickly on the internet. Upload your website on the internet within 1 week!

BRONZE PLAN
Php1,950/mo
5 FREE email,
5 MB to 10 MB disk space

SILVER PLAN
Php2,600/mo
20 FREE email,
FREE web design with full graphics & flash animation

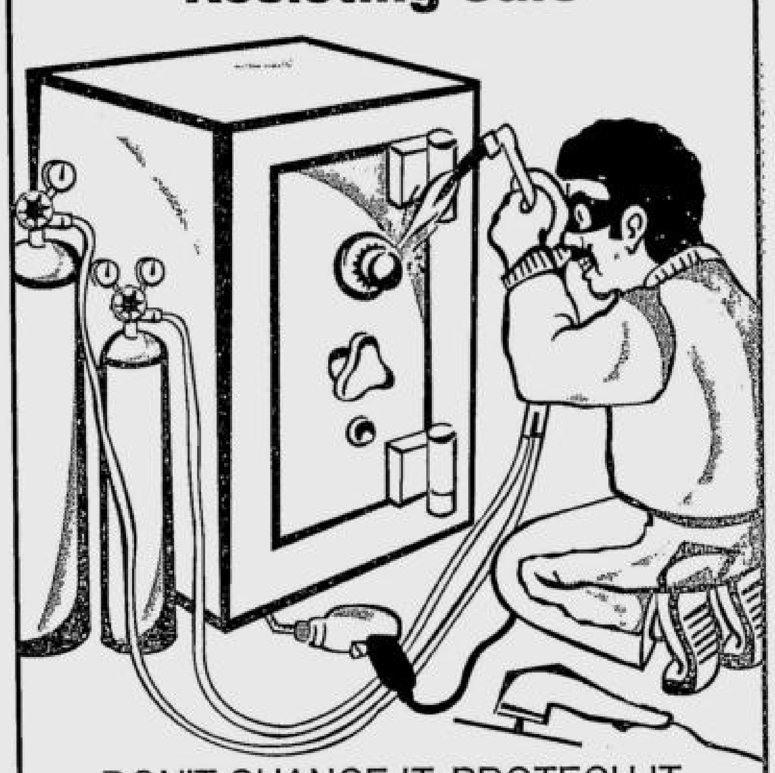
WebNet Solutions™
The eBusiness Division of SEAC Telecom
info@webnetph.com
Tel no. 891-3412
Web Hosting · Web Design · Domain Registration · eBusiness Infrastructure

MIST FAN COOLING SYSTEMS!
Convert your existing fan into an Evaporative Cooling System
"Instant temperature reduction up to 40°F"

Wall Mount
Industrial Fan
Ceiling
Stand Fan
Truly Aircondition-like feeling!

Perfect for: Factories, Warehouses, Assembly Plants, Manufacturing Plants, Foundries, Livestocks, Restaurants, Schools, Gymnasiums, Repair Shops, Multipurpose Courts, Lanai, Veranda, etc.
Ideal for: buildings with multiple fan installations.
For inquiries & free estimates, call now!
COOL MIST INTERNATIONAL
Pioneer & Industry Leader since 1996
Tel. Nos.: 920-8109 • 928-3424 Telefax: 920-8109
SALES / RENTALS / DESIGNS / INSTALLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE

PROtech FORTRESS
APOLLO SERIES
World Class Burglar Resisting Safe



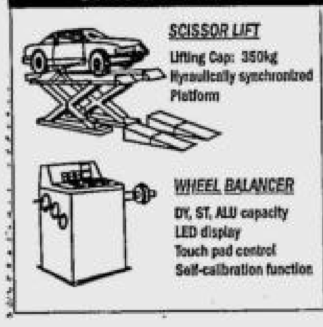
DON'T CHANCE IT. PROTECH IT.
PROTECTION TECHNOLOGY, INC.
Physical Security Equipment www.protech.com.ph

HEAD OFFICE:
2643-U Taft Ave., Pasay City, M.M.
Tels. 833-1246 / 833-3622 / 831-0648
Fax: (632) 831-2961
E-mail: protech@skyinet.net

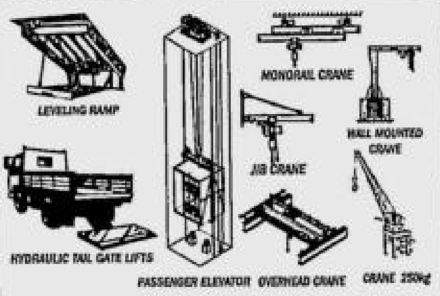
CEBU OFFICE:
Escario St., cor. Don Mariano Cui St., Capitol Site, Cebu City
Tel.: (032) 255-6384
Telefax: (032) 254-6301
E-mail: protechc@mozcom.com

DAVAO OFFICE:
Unit B Atty. Fanlo Compound
P. Gomez St., Davao City
Tel.: (082) 221-5021
Cell. No.: 0919-8885852
E-mail: protechd@mozcom.com

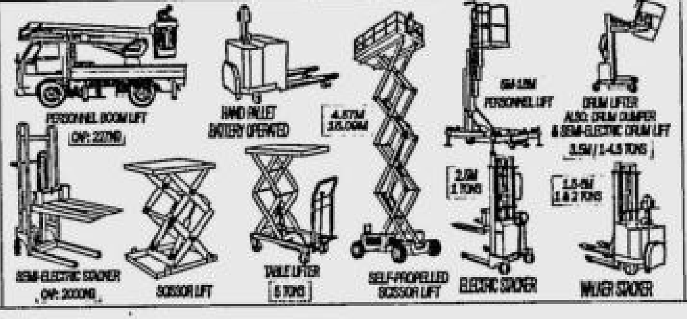
CAR LIFTERS



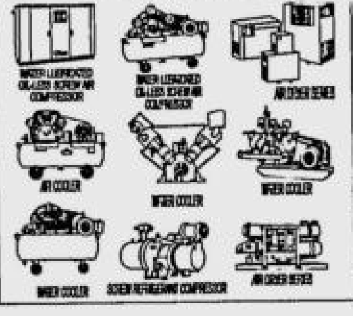
POWER LIFTER/ HOIST/ CRANE/ ELEVATOR



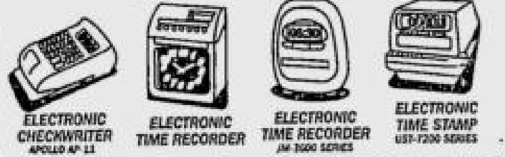
MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT


PERSONNEL BOOM LIFT (CAP: 227KG)
HAND PALLET BATTERY OPERATED
PERSONNEL LIFT
DRUM LIFTER ALSO: DRUM DUMPER & SEMI-ELECTRIC DRUM LIFT
SEMI-ELECTRIC STACKER (CAP: 2000KG)
SCISSOR LIFT
TABLE LIFTER
SELF-PROPELLED SCISSOR LIFT
ELECTRIC STACKER
WALKER STACKER

AIR COMPRESSOR



OFFICE EQUIPMENT
SPECIAL OFFER



EIB TECHNOLOGY PHILS., INC.
Tel Nos.: 814-0934
TeleFax: 893-0414 • 841-0646

Facial Care Centre's Woman to Woman

" Little crow's feet and lines around my eyes are obviously diminished, my skin feels firmer. Facial Care Centre's treatments are so effective, no wonder everyone tells me I look much younger than my real age."
Dinah Dominguez, 38
Businesswoman

" It's been a while since I've felt this good about myself. The improvement on my skin is so obvious. I can't help but smile every time I get compliments."
April Marcial-Stewart, 40
TV Personality

" For me, happiness means Facial Care Centre. Who else can give me flawless, younger-looking skin?"
Suzette Arriesgado, 44
Businesswoman

Women just love Facial Care Centre. Because Facial Care Centre knows women.
Call or visit us NOW!
Facial care centre
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
NOW OPEN

MAKATI
817-3323
812-6080/81
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.

ORTIGAS
687-2196
687-2197
631-3007 • 631-3045
Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.

QUEZON CITY
372-6633
372-6634
410-3709 • 410-3710
Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue

SHAW
534-7701/02
717-0076
Sunshine Square Plaza

ALABANG
842-1144
809-9583 / 850-4577
Citibank-Frabelle Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd.

BINONDO
243-8138/39
243-8602 / 243-9895
City Plaza Tower, Plaza del Conde St.

CONGRESSIONAL
920-7938
920-7992 / 920-8064
Q Plaza
Congressional Avenue

PAMPANGA
961-3404/08
860-2663/64
Dan's Marketing Bldg., Mc Arthur Highway, San Fernando

CEBU
233-7631
233-7633/35
Keppel Centre, Cebu City

ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK.
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)

No wedding bells for gays if Church had its way

By Armand N. Nocum

MANILA Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin yesterday lashed out against a bill filed by a congresswoman that appeared to allow same-sex marriages, saying there were more important issues for Congress to tackle.

Manila Auxiliary Bishop Socrates Villegas also warned against passage of the measure, saying it was against the "Christian faith" and "human nature."

In his talk delivered at a Mass celebrating the 16th anniversary of People Power I, Sin digressed from his prepared homily to lambaste the measure that has been filed at the House of Representatives.

"Let us ask God to enlighten our lawmakers. Just imagine, one congresswoman is asking Congress to pass a bill that (would allow) two women or two men to get married," he said.

He did not name the woman solon, but Rep. Bellaflor Angara-Castillo (LDP, Aurora) lamented that her bill has been misunderstood by the Church, which she said is fiercely lobbying against it.

"If the Church (people) only read the bill, it's not even about same-sex marriage," Angara-Castillo told the INQUIRER yesterday in a phone interview.

She said she filed the Magna Carta for Gays and Lesbians to protect the rights of homosexuals and to prevent discrimination against them.

But, she said, the Church frowned on the bill's provision on "domestic partnership" which seeks to govern "property relations between gays and lesbians."

"It's not advocating same-sex marriage," she said.

"My goodness, what is happening to our country. Instead of talking about how to solve the problems of poverty, they are talking about the marriage of two male people," Cardinal Sin said, toward the end of his sermon.

In an interview after the Mass, Monsignor Villegas said the same-sex marriage measure is "against Filipino sensibilities."

"It is unnatural. It is against our Filipino culture. It is against our Christian faith," he said, citing the three grounds on which the Church will oppose the measure.

Angara-Castillo said that because of the fierce objection of the Church, her bill was shelved in the previous 11th Congress.

She said bishops talked to their congressmen to block the measure, thus, it was never tackled in committee.

She said she refiled the bill recently despite the continuing objections of the Church because she believes that gays and lesbians are entitled to equal protection under the law.

"It's unfortunate that some sectors condemn people who hold a contrary view," she said. ***With a report from Juliet L. Javellana***

8,000 Pinoys lost jobs since January

By Blanche S. Rivera

MORE than 8,000 workers have lost their jobs since the start of the year because of the continuing economic crisis, the Department of Labor and Employment said.

The DOLE's Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics said 8,599 workers were laid off between Jan. 1 and Feb. 15 as more companies either downsized operations or reported financial losses.

The figure averaged 191 retrenched workers a day. They join the 4.2 million Filipinos who are currently unemployed.

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas said she was confident the DOLE would be able to cushion the effects of the layoffs with the increased deployment of Filipino workers overseas.

She said the government is hoping to deploy 1 million OFWs this year, going so far as to declare 2002 as the Year of the Overseas Employment Providers.

Metro Manila-based companies like Pepsi-Cola, Philippine Home Cable Holdings, Cyberspace Inc. and Rosario Bros. Co. Inc. were among the firms that reduced their work forces.

If it was any consolation, Sto. Tomas said, the 8,599 figure this year was lower than the number for the same period last year, which was 11,733 workers.

Hi•Wire
UNMETERED
internet access
All the Internet you can use for only P1,000 a month
PLUS
EARN ₱10,000 for every 3 users you refer!
CALL NOW 8788588
info@hiwire.net.ph www.hiwire.net.ph

Victor
SELECTIVE RACKS
Selective Rack designed with the up-to-date Engineering Technology. This system is the best for storing and retrieving of different products in the same bay of pallet stored space.

Supermarket Shelves & Carts
MG 200Z
20, 60, 80-200 Liter Customer Trolley
Bright Zinc plated Clear Lacquered

Wicke Germany
FIXED SWIVEL SWIVEL W/ BRAKE
* 3" TO 8" (80 MM TO 200 MM) Diameter * 50 kg to 350 kg Load Capacity * Solid Rubber Tyres * Double Ball Race Sealed in the Swivel Head * Roller Bearing * Bolted Axle * Optional Thread Guard *

PILOT
HYDRAULIC PALLET TRUCK
- 2.5 ton......P12,500
- 2.5 ton Low Profile......P13,500
- 3 ton......P13,500
- HAND LOWERING CONTROLS 3 POSITIONS LOWER-NEUTRAL-PUMP
- DURABLE HYDRAULICS
- ROBUST CONSTRUCTION

(1 YEAR WARRANTY)

NITCHI
Lever, Manual & Electric Chain Hoist
- 1 Ton to 10 Tons Lift Capacity
- Extra Load & Hand Chain Available
- Plain, Geared and Motorized Trolley
- 220 Volts / 3Ph / 60 Hz Supply

AC Imported From DENMARK
HYDRAULIC STACKERS
Lift Heights Available: 1,600 MM / 2,450 MM 2,850 MM / 3,300 MM 1 Metric Ton Max Load Electric & Manual Models
• 1,600 MM P25,000
PALLET TRUCKS
2, 2.5 & 3 Tons Load Low & Standard Profile Wide & Narrow Forks
• 2.5 tons P18,500
• 3 tons P20,500
* High Strength steel for Low Weight * Built-in Overload Valve * Double Seal Fluid Tight Stable Hydraulic System * Versatile * Mobile * Maintenance Free * Low Profile * ISO 9001 * Two Years Warranty *

SWAN air compressors
- One year warranty
- Air cooled ¼ HP to 30 HP
- Single stage & two stage models
- Heavy duty cast iron construction
- High volume discharge at low RPM
- Automatic unloader & pressure switch system

ROTORCOMP
Screw Air Compressor Made by Bauer of Germany
- Below 2ppm Oil Discharge
- 10 to 600 HP (7 to 13 Bars)
- Tropicalized Cooling System
- 30 % Larger than Standard
- Air Ends w/ Rolling Profile 10 yrs. Warranty
- Steel Tube Piping, no hose connections
- Oil separator & Filter Changed in Minutes

BLOWERS AND VACUUM BOOSTERS
HIGH PERFORMANCE LOW-COST BLOWERS
ANLET 3 Lobes Made in Japan
LONGTECH Made in Taiwan
Applications: Wastewater Treatment, Chemical/Gas Processing, Environmental, Pneumatic Conveying, Industrial, Food Processing and many more.

Heavy Duty Pressure Washer
KENO DENMARK
HW 1500 Cold & Steam
120/12 Motor Driven
Low 1,400 RPM, High 120 Bars (1,700 PSI) Adjustable Pressure, Wheel Mounted, 12 Liters / Minute, Ceramic Pistons, Light Weight, Low Noise & Vibration
Also: Sand Blasting, Chemical Injector, Rotating Nozzle

VICTOR HARDWARE
607-609 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 743-6761 • Fax: 743-4587 & 732-6100
E-mail: victorhardware@i-manila.com.ph

ANVIL AWARD

PDI SVP for Sales and Marketing Rene Reinoso with VP for Advertising Pepito Olarte and Leo Magno (second from left) receive the Anvil Award of Merit for the PDI corporate brochure. Also in photo are, from left, Eduardo S. Alcaraz, chair of the 37th Anvil Awards Committee, Melvyn S. Martin (judge), Dean Ellen J. Paglinauan (judge) and Honesto M. Isleta, president of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines.

ROMY HOMILLADA

'TERRORISM AT SEA'

Asean, EU experts tackle piracy

MORE than 100 maritime security experts and diplomats from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and European Union met here to discuss curbing "terrorism at sea" or piracy, the foreign office said yesterday.

According to statistics released during Sunday's conference, there were 471 cases of piracy and armed robbery against ships in 2000.

Nearly half occurred in the busy sea lanes of Southeast Asia, the Malacca Strait and Indian Ocean. Pirates also became more deadly with 72 crewmembers killed, 129 wounded and five others missing.

"The security environment that has emerged from the rubble of the 9/11 incident introduces new perspectives," Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. said of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

"(This) necessitates fresh approaches . . . to the problems posed by international maritime terrorism, which includes piracy," he added in a speech.

Guingona noted that piracy evolved in the Philippines at the turn of the last century, when Filipino Muslim seafarers fought to ward off western colonizers.

The "modern-day version," however, carries "political undertones although employing traditional ways, including kidnapping for ransom," he said.

"It is sometimes linked to the secessionist aspirations of some elements in society, or simply Muslim militancy," Guingona said.

He was apparently referring to the Abu Sayyaf kidnap gang in the southern Philippines that abducted dozens of foreign hostages in two cross border raids on Malaysian resorts in 2000.

The Abu Sayyaf is a small group of self-styled Islamic fighters linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network. It is the target of massive joint US-Philippine exercises in the south of the country.

Guingona urged stronger international cooperation against piracy beyond intelligence exchange and border patrols.

He said countries concerned should create legislation that would punish pirates as well as strike a regional agreement defining piracy and armed robbery. ***AFP***

Drug firms early winners in war games

From page A1

relievers and cough and cold medicines has allowed United Laboratories Inc. to post a sales record of P30 million in January, up from P24 million in the same period last year, according to Rodel Magsalin, operations supervisor of the firm's Consumer Health Division.

Magsalin said the presence of Filipino and American soldiers participating in Balikatan 02-1 was a factor in his firm's impressive sales performance.

Among the buyers are Filipino soldiers, a number of foreign troops and media practitioners, he said, adding:

"*Kaya nga pro-Balikatan kami* (That's why we're pro-Balikatan)."

Magsalin said that compared with other areas in Mindanao, Zamboanga City had never posted such a high demand for medicines.

54-percent growth

"In general, Zamboanga's economic recovery is good," he said. "(But) we experienced a growth of 54 percent in January. There is really a lot of money moving within the Zamboanga area. Even the hotels are fully booked."

Magsalin also said there were now more users of Alaxan, a pain reliever and muscle relaxant, in Zamboanga.

For vitamins, Enervon and Revicon are the most in demand, he said. Sales of Biogesic, an antipyretic, and the cold medicine Neozep have also gone up.

Magsalin pointed out that other pharmaceutical companies could also be doing well in sales.

He said Unilab was in direct competition with 10 other drug companies.

Dig this, a taxi without a cabbie is no fantasy

From page A1

Bay area in Wales by 2004 if all goes according to plan, Treychenne said.

Next, the pods would move to the center of the Welsh capital.

At a maximum of 40 kph, ULTra may not reach cosmic speeds but should still speed past cars and buses stuck in traffic.

The battery-powered pods will operate on a single 1.5-meter track, which is less than half the width of a single lane of road. They recharge at every stop to keep their energy levels at full capacity.

Resistant to vandalism, snow, rain and ice, the vehicles will be designed to stop automatically if they sense an object in their path.

Smart taxis

ULTra pods could work as an automated personal taxi system. Passengers will "hail" the pod from a designated stop, where they select the required destination along a set route.

When the pod pulls up, the passengers swipe a smart card giving the travel details and ULTra carries them directly to their chosen stop.

Rubber wheels ensure a quiet journey and security cameras at every stop increase passenger safety.

Its designers say ULTra can spell the end of long taxi queues, because passengers will find on-call pods at designated stops at least 80 percent of the time.

This efficiency comes from a large number of pods in circulation and shortened journey times without conventional traffic jams.

Cheap ride

Advanced Transport Systems estimates that building an ULTra network costs about one-third to one-half of the amount needed for a light railway.

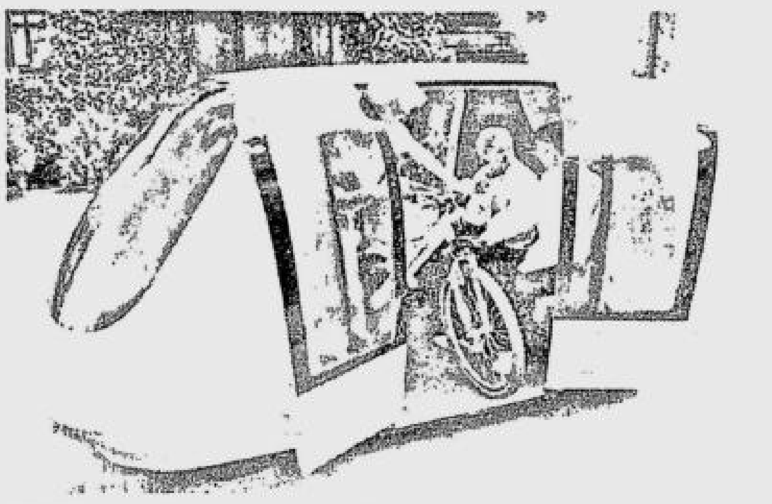
Connecting Cardiff's city center to its waterside region is expected to cost 45 million pounds ($65 million). Old car parks and shops will be converted into express stations for hospitals and other focal points in the city.

The pods will be accessible to the disabled, as well as passengers with bicycles or prams, with lifts taking people up to high-rise stations.

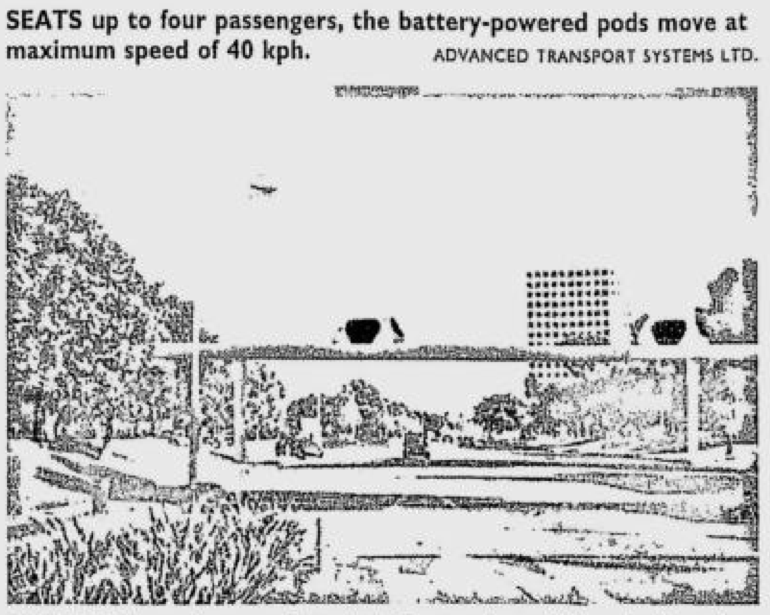
Designers hope that the fare will cost about as much as an ordinary bus journey, or even less if passengers are prepared to share their pods.

Wherever possible, ULTra will run on the ground, but some routes might require tracks to be raised on pillars above roads, creating a truly futuristic look.

"In a modern development like the Cardiff waterfront area, we feel that the system will match the architecture very well," said the ULTra design team. ***Reuters***



SEATS up to four passengers, the battery-powered pods move at maximum speed of 40 kph. ADVANCED TRANSPORT SYSTEMS LTD.



THE POD is no longer a futuristic fantasy but will be circling the Welsh capital of Cardiff in two years. ADVANCED TRANSPORT SYSTEMS LTD.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Tuesday, February 26, 2002
2nd Week of Lent

1st Reading: **Is 1:10, 16-20**
Gospel: **Mk 23:1-12**

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The teachers of the Law and the Pharisees sat on the seat of Moses. So you shall do and observe all they say, but do not do as they do, for they do not do what they say. They tie up heavy burdens and load them on the shoulders of the people, but they do not even raise a finger to move them. They do everything in order to be seen by people; so they wear very wide bands of the Law around their foreheads, and robes with large tassels. They enjoy the first place at feasts and reserved seats in the synagogues, and being greeted in the marketplace and being called 'Master' by the people.

But you, do not let yourselves be called Master because you have only one Master, and all of you are brothers and sisters. Neither should you call anyone on earth Father, because you have only one Father, he who is in heaven. Nor should you be called leader, because Christ is the only leader for you. Let the greatest among you be the servant of all. For whoever makes himself great shall be humbled, and whoever humbles himself shall be made great."

Commentary

This is very straight talking. Take out the Bible, look up the rest of chapter 23 and find the strongest words of Jesus you'll hear anywhere in the gospels: "Hypocrites! Snakes! How can you escape condemnation!"

When the world condemns, Jesus says, "Be merciful." (yesterday's gospel, Luke 6) But those whom the world praises, Jesus condemns as a race of vipers!

Jesus said to Peter, "What you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven." (last Friday's gospel, Matthew 16) But here Jesus says, "You bind up heavy burdens for others which you yourselves don't lift a finger to carry!"

The way of the world: reserved seats, showy robes, hierarchical relationships, honorific titles.

The way of Jesus: humility, service, simplicity.

A different kind of Lenten discipline: fast from accepting and giving titles and forms of address which obscure the reality that all of us are brothers and sisters.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missiona-ries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

LEGAL ETHICS—Duty of the clerk of court—Clerks of court must be individuals of competence, honesty and probity. As the custodian of the court's funds and revenues, records, property and premises, he or she performs a very delicate function and is liable for any loss, shortage, destruction or impairment of said funds and property. The failure of respondent to explain the shortage of funds leaves the Court will little choice but to hold her liable for dishonesty and gross misconduct in office justifying her dismissal from office. [Citations omitted.] [*En Banc, Per Curiam*, Office of the Court Administrator v. Orbigo-Marcelo, A.M. No. P-00-1415-MeTC, Aug. 30, 2001]

DIGEST BY R.B. VERA

Old drug law gets new teeth

By C. Avendaño

CONGRESS is well on the way to replacing the 30-year-old Dangerous Drugs Act with a far more stringent measure whose penalties against offenders include the death penalty for possession of a mere five grams of marijuana resin and other drugs deemed to be illegal.

The House committees on dangerous drugs, public order and security, and appropriations submitted to Speaker Jose de Venecia on Feb. 20 their report on the proposed Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, or House Bill No. 4433.

The bill consolidates 23 bills sponsored by 34 congressmen and will repeal RA 6425, or the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1972.

The Senate has a counterpart measure but it has yet to come up with its own committee report.

The proposed law has increased the penalties and fines for possession not just of illegal drugs but of "controlled precursors and essential chemicals."

Those found in possession of five grams or more of opium, morphine, methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu, heroin, marijuana resin oil, cocaine and drugs with no therapeutic value, or 200 grams or more of marijuana will face the maximum penalty of life imprisonment or death and a fine ranging from P500,000 to P10 million.

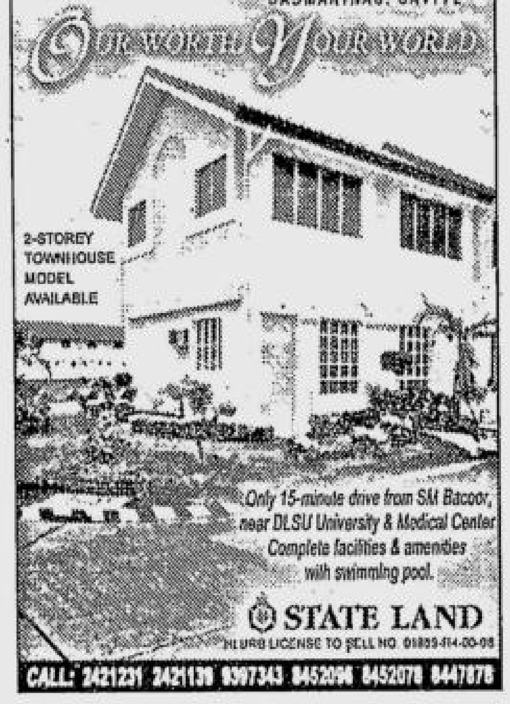
The maximum penalty is to be imposed also on those found importing, selling, administering, delivering, distributing, transporting and manufacturing dangerous drugs as well as maintaining a "den, dive or resort where any dangerous drug is used in any form."

CERAMIC PLAZA
THE MOST TILES AT THE BEST PRICES
EUROTILES
SUPERIOR CERAMIC TILES
₱7.25* 20 cm x 20 cm (8"x 8")
₱16.50* 30 cm x 30 cm (12"x 12")
*METRO MANILA PRICE
SUPERIOR TILE GROUT
₱39.95* 2 Kgs
₱99.50* 5 Kgs
*WHITE AND BEIGE
METRO MANILA BRANCHES
MANILA 1582 J. Abad Santos Ave. (Near Dynasty Tower) 253-26-27 • 253-0590
QUEZON AVENUE 27-29 HIZON BLDG (Near D. Tuazon St.) 731-1380
PASAY 811 EDSA Tels. 833-5510 • 834-7537
SUCAT 8208 Dr. A Santos Ave. 829-6417
MUNTINLUPA Christ The King Bldg. (Near PEPSI Plant), Tunasan, Muntinlupa 801-1776
ANTIPOLO J & F Bldg., Masinag, Marcos Highway, Rizal 678-0692
VALENZUELA UNIT 2 #213 McArthur Hi-way (Karuhatan) (Near SMC Warehouse), 291-5271
PROVINCIAL BRANCHES
DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE Km. 37 Aguinaldo Hi-way, Dasmariñas, Cavite (046)416-3743
CARMONA Bo. Maduya, National Highway, Carmona, Cavite (046)430-3227
MEYCAUAYAN JP Hermoso Bldg., McArthur Hi-way, Bo. Banga (044)840-0349
BALIUAG DRT Hi way, (044)673 3595 (044)673-0445
GUIGUINTO UNIT CDE Cundangan Bldg., Tuktukan (044)690 0806
ANGELES Sta. Ester Bldg. 833 Henson St. (045)887-4611
TARLAC San Sebastian, McArthur Hi way (045)800-0212
EXTENDED STORE HOURS! 8:30 AM TO 7:30 PM DAILY
ALMANZA, LAS PIÑAS (In front of SM Southmall) Lot 7, Alabang Zapote Rd., Brgy. Almanza, Las Piñas City Tels. 801-7152 • 800-7131 800-7132 • 800-7134
E. RODRIGUEZ 113 E. Rodriguez Avenue (Near G. Araneta Ave.) Quezon City Tel. 732-1306
MUÑOZ 1207 EDSA, Q.C. Tels. 372-4687 372-1593 • 372-9010 • 372-9011
CERAMIC PLAZA at Federal HARDWARE BUILDER'S CENTER
*OPEN 8:30AM TO 7:30PM DAILY
*FEDERAL HARDWARE-MAKATI 2750 Chino Roces Avenue (Pasong Tamo), Makati City Tel. 893 1854
*FEDERAL HARDWARE-CAINTA No. 9 Imelda Ave. (Near MAKRO), Cainta, Rizal • Tel. 678-1638
*FEDERAL HARDWARE-TAYTAY Manila East Road (Near Mao's), Kaytikling, Taytay, Rizal Tels. 284 2208 • 665 3442
FEDERAL HARDWARE BACOOR, CAVITE Annex A Tropical Hut Bldg., Bacoor, Cavite Tel. (046) 870-2598
FEDERAL HARDWARE-IMUS, CAVITE 379 NR Aguinaldo Highway (Near Robinsons), Anabu I-C Imus, Cavite Tel. (046) 875 4840
FEDERAL HARDWARE-ANGELES 509 & 571 McArthur Highway, Sto. Domingo, Angeles City Tel. (045) 888-4185

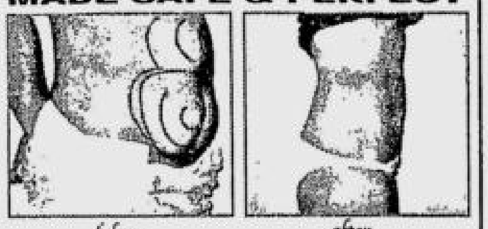
OWN A RESIDENTIAL UNIT
MADISON MANOR CONDO
NO RESERVATION NO DOWNPAYMENT
WE WELCOME BROKERS!
FIRST RESIDENTIAL CONDO IN LAS PIÑAS
W/ 2BR & PARKING FOR ONLY P1.2M+
FREE Dryer Machine for Buyers!
INFRONT OF SM SOUTHMALL
For inquiries, please call:
GLOBAL HOMES 243-1481 / 245-1043
CECILLE 805-8581 / 0919-8681285
JING 0919-2753121
FERDIE 913-7291 / 1277-18213

Join! SUMMER PROGRAMS
(Departing April-May 2002)
- 9-14 & 15-18 years old
- Creative writing, advance grammar, literature, debate, public speaking
- Visit London, Stratford-on-avon, Norwich and Cambridge
ENGLAND
- 9-14 & 15-18 years old
- Seacamp: Shark Study, Coastal Ecology, Marine Investigation
- Visit Magic Kingdom, EPCOT, Kennedy Space Center
Florida, USA
- 15-17/18 & 18-24 years old
- French language lessons and culture
- Visit Cannes, Monte Carlo and Paris: Eiffel Tower, Louvre, Arc d' Triumphe
Nice, FRANCE
- 15-17/18 & 18-24 years old
- Spanish language lessons, history, art history & gastronomy
- Visit Madrid, Segovia, Salamanca, El escorial
Avila, SPAIN
- 15-24 years old
- Chinese business classes, language lessons
- Visit Forbidden City, Tian' An Men Square, Great Wall
Beijing, CHINA
- 18-24 years old
- Italian language lessons, wine tasting & cooking lessons
- Visit Rome, Sienna, Greve
Florence, ITALY
- Hotel Restaurant Management Study Tour (18 years old & above)
- Modules: Wine Knowledge, Food production, Front Office, Restaurant and Bar Services, Housekeeping
Brisbane, AUSTRALIA
INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN STUDY, INC.
Suite 805 Ferros Bel-air Tower, No. 30 Polaris St. Bel-air, Makati City 1209
Tel. 896-7010 to 11 • Fax 896-6403
Email: ifs@skyinet.net • Website: www.ifsphil.com
Or text: Cebu (0917-3214002) • Davao (0918-3251881) • Manila (0917-4020686 • 0918-7253495)
MIGRATION SERVICES UNIT: (0917)8173723 • migration@skyinet.net

WIP ARC
HEAVY DUTY ARC WELDING MACHINES
TOUGH ON THE JOB
HIGH PERFORMANCE • PROVEN QUALITY
T-150 T-250 TR-300 TD-400 Dual-Voltage
2 YEARS WARRANTY ON WORKMANSHIP
LIFETIME SERVICE WARRANTY
OVER 20,000 UNITS SOLD NATIONWIDE • EXPORTED WORLDWIDE
- Other models available: TC-150 Transformer/Charger, TR-300 AC/DC Single Phase, TD-300 Dual-Voltage 220/440 V, R3-300 3-Phase Rectifier DC
- Machines built to YOUR specifications
AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING HARDWARE STORES NATIONWIDE
WIP INCORPORATED
Quality Products by
WELDING INDUSTRIES OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.
ISO 9002 TUV Certificate No. 09 100 99188
SALES OFFICE: CARTIMAR Administration Building, Pasay City • Tel. 831-2262 • 831-2263 • 831-7528 • Fax. 831-6834
FACTORY: 111 Baesa Road, Caloocan City • Tel. 364-7581 to 84 • Fax. 362-8706 • EMAIL: wipweld@evoserve.com

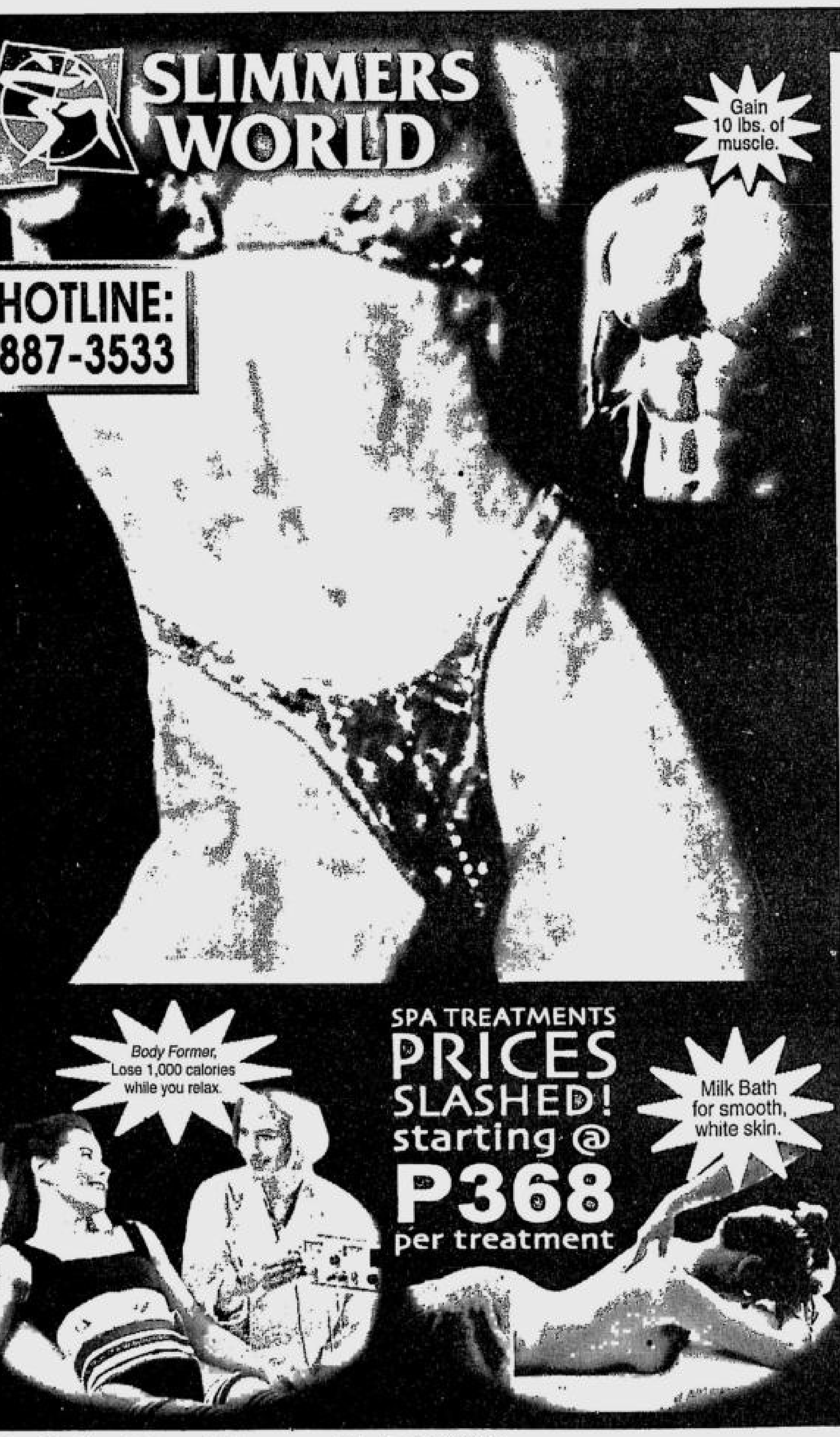


AVAILABLE THRU EASY FINANCING SCHEME
SUNNYCREST ROYALE
DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE
OUR WORTH YOUR WORLD
2-STOREY TOWNHOUSE MODEL AVAILABLE
Only 15-minute drive from SM Bacoor, near DLSU University & Medical Center
Complete facilities & amenities with swimming pool.
STATE LAND
HLURB LICENSE TO SELL NO. 01859-414-00-08
CALL: 2421231 2421139 8397343 8452096 8452078 8447878

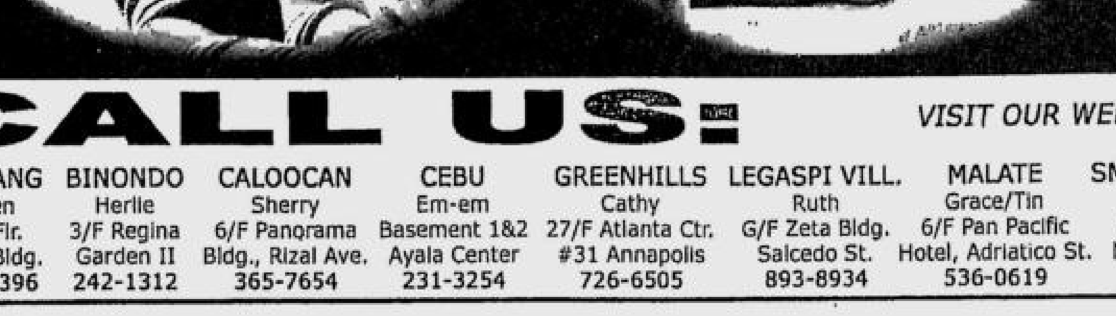


FEEL & LOOK SEXY
MODERN LIPOSUCTION MADE SAFE & PERFECT
before after
Get Rid of your unwanted FATS the easy way, with very minimal discomfort. The 3rd day, you're up and about!
Only at
Prettylooks Hi-Tech Beauty Centre for Men & Women

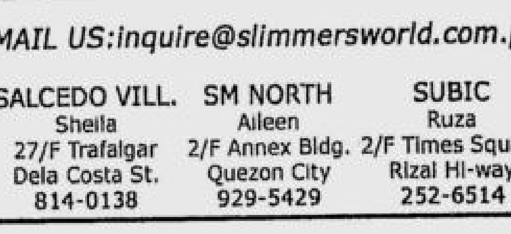
Daisy Drilon, M.D.
Head Cosmetic Surgeon
OTHER SERVICES:
• VARICOSE & SPIDER VEINS • NOSE LIFTING • FACE LIFTING • BUST LIFTING • SCAR REVISION • DOUBLE EYELID • EYEBAG REMOVAL • ACNE TREATMENT • SYRINGOMA & WART REMOVAL • AESTHETIC TATTOO • COLLAGEN REPLACEMENT THERAPY • PIGMENT REMOVAL SYSTEM • SKIN WHITENING • HANDS COLLAGEN
FOR FREE CONSULTATION, VISIT OR CALL US AT:
Unit 224-225 Bldg. #2 Central Park I, Gen. Tinio St., cor. Binay St., Bangkal, Makati City • susanong@globenet.com.ph
Tels. 889-4830 to 31 • Cell No. 0917-5180675
OTHER BRANCHES:
• BINONDO • CEBU • GEN SANTOS • U.S.A
• BAGUIO • DAVAO • ZAMBOANGA



SLIMMERS WORLD
Gain 10 lbs. of muscle.
HOTLINE: 887-3533
LOSE FAT
Gain lean muscle.
PAY ONLY P39 PER VISIT on full programmes
SAVE up to P21,765
NO JOINING FEES! NO MONTHLY DUES!
NO CREDIT CARDS NECESSARY.
FIRST 50 IN FEBRUARY.



Body Former, Lose 1,000 calories while you relax.
SPA TREATMENTS PRICES SLASHED! starting @ P368 per treatment
Milk Bath for smooth, white skin.



PROMO!
FACE & SKIN CLINIC
FREE Skin Analysis with our Resident Dermatologist
HOTLINE 887-3530
CALL US:
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.slimmersworld.com.ph or EMAIL US: inquire@slimmersworld.com.ph

ALABANG	BINONDO	CALOOCAN	CEBU	GREENHILLS	LEGASPI VILL.	MALATE	SM MEGAMALL	PASAY ROAD	PASIG	SALCEDO VILL.	SM NORTH	SUBIC
Karen	Herlie	Sherry	Em-em	Cathy	Ruth	Grace/Tin	Michelle	Camille	Lorie	Sheila	Aileen	Ruza
2nd Flr. RCBC Bldg.	3/F Regina Garden II	6/F Panorama Bldg., Rizal Ave.	Basement 1&2 Ayala Center	27/F Atlanta Ctr. #31 Annapolis	G/F Zeta Bldg. Salcedo St.	6/F Pan Pacific Hotel, Adriatico St.	2/F Bldg. A Mandaluyong	1032 Arnaiz Avenue, cor. EDSA	Restaurant Ave. Marcos Hi-way	27/F Trafalgar Dela Costa St.	2/F Annex Bldg. Quezon City	2/F Times Square Rizal Hi-way
809-0396	242-1312	365-7654	231-3254	726-6505	893-8934	536-0619	631-3869	887-1336	681-5333	814-0138	929-5429	252-6514

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 80
ISSN 0116-2642

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

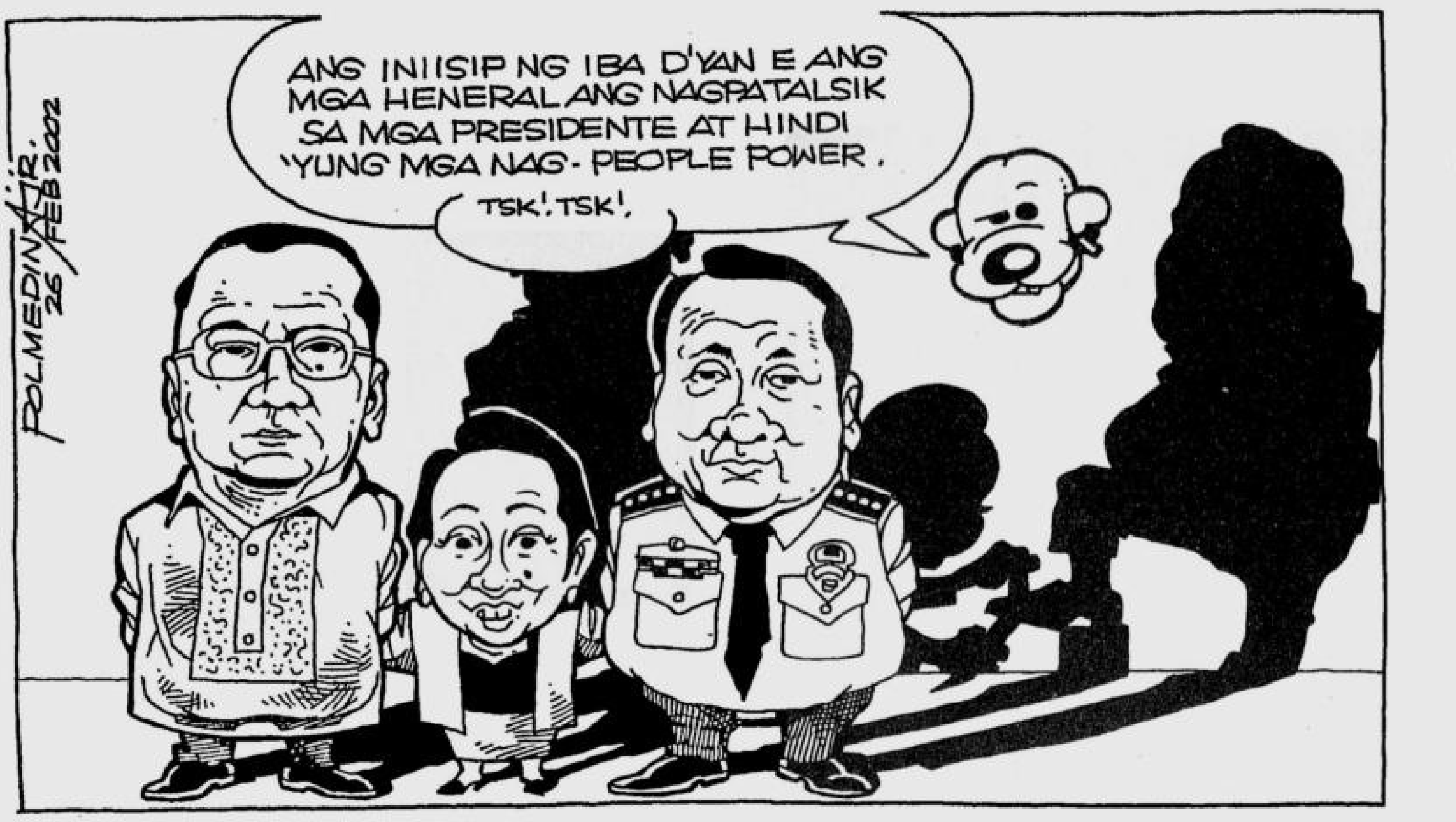
The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
▪ Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
▪ P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
▪ Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
▪ Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 ▪ Advertising 897-4807
▪ Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

• 100% soy ink •

Publisher **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Editor in Chief **LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC**
Managing Editor **JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO**
Associate Editor **ABELARDO S. ULANDAY**
News Editor **ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.**
Opinion Editor **JORGE V. ARUTA**
Assistant News Editor **NILO B. PAUROM**
National Editor **PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.**
City Editor **GERRY LIRIO**
Senior Deskperson **ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO**
Editorial Consultant **AMANDO DORONILA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE U. SARMIENTO**
Art & Design Director **LYNETT A. VILLARIBA**

Board Chairman **MARIXI R. PRIETO**
President **ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **RENATO R. REINOSO**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **DAVID O. VALDES**
VP for Advertising **FELIPE R. OLARTE**
AVP for Circulation **GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL**

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.


POLMEDINA JR. 26 FEB 2002
ANG INIISIP NG IBA D'YAN E ANG MGA HENERAL ANG NAGPATALSIK SA MGA PRESIDENTE AT HINDI 'YUNG MGA NAG- PEOPLE POWER.
TSK!, TSK!,

No closure yet

EDITORIAL

SOME TIME last year, some generals of the Armed Forces of the Philippines had dinner and exchanged views with the editors of the INQUIRER. One of them asked why a negative perception of the AFP remained 15 years after the Edsa Revolution. Don't the people realize that we have a new AFP? The answer given him was that the perception remained because there has been no closure to the dark period of the dictatorship.

People Power I ousted the Marcos conjugal dictatorship. But 16 years after Edsa I, the vestiges of the Marcos dictatorship remain. Many of its ranking officials still occupy key posts in the government. Many of the AFP and Integrated National Police officers who operated the martial law machinery still hold important posts in the military and the police. The late dictator's cronies and friends still exercise a powerful influence in business, politics and society.

Not one official, officer, crony or friend has been punished for wrongdoing committed during the martial law period. Well, the former First Lady, Imelda Romualdez Marcos, was convicted by the Sandiganbayan in a graft case in 1993 but the decision was later reversed by the Supreme Court. Former International Airport Manager Luis Tabuena was convicted by the Sandiganbayan of malversation for withdrawing P55 million from MIAA funds and delivering it to Marcos. The Supreme Court also reversed the decision. Some of the justices were people who held key posts in the Marcos administration.

Fifty cases are pending in the Sandiganbayan and more than 60 in the Supreme Court against the Marcoses and people identified with them. But adjudication of the cases has been delayed by lawyers using every tactic in their bag of tricks.

Sixteen years after Edsa I, the government has recovered only a few crumbs, figuratively, of the Marcos' alleged ill-gotten wealth. The bulk of the estimated $5 to $10 billion that Marcos and company allegedly stole from the people has not been recovered.

Among the recoveries by the Presidential Commission on Good Government have been the P417 million remitted to the agrarian reform program, a cash recovery of P632 million, the sale of P72 million in surrendered PLDT shares and $625 million from Marcos foundations that has been deposited in escrow at the Philippine National Bank.

The dark legacy of the Marcos dictatorship is still very much with us today. Marcos debased the judiciary, starting with the Supreme Court. Today we have a very real problem with "hoodlums in robes" who sell decisions and TROs for the right price. We have a Congress that has a lot of Marcos-era traditional politicians or *trapos*. Look at how the House voted on the impeachment cases against Ombudsman Aniano Desierto.

Marcos' coddling of the AFP and the police corrupted the two organizations. The police are now part of the peace and order problem. Many officers are suspected of involvement in drug trafficking, kidnapping for ransom and bank robberies. Marcos coddled the generals and today they expect to be wooed and coddled by whoever is in power.

Not one big fish has been convicted by a Philippine court of violation of human rights committed during the Marcos dictatorship. In Hawaii, Judge Manuel Real found the Marcoses guilty in the cases filed by nearly 10,000 victims of human rights abuses, but up to now the court's decision has not been enforced.

McCoy said that more than any other nation that has emerged from authoritarianism, "the Philippines provides an example of extreme impunity. While other restored democracies have attempted an accounting for past crimes, the Philippines, by contrast, has done little to punish the perpetrators or purge their influence."

Is this happening because Filipinos are a people who easily forget and forgive? Is it because we want to have national reconciliation? Why don't we want to face the truth of our past? South Africa was able to do it with a Truth Commission. Pro-democracy forces in Argentina prompted the formation of a truth commission that put out the famed report, "Nunca Mas" (Never Again). South Korea tried and imprisoned two former presidents. Chile is trying Augusto Pinochet.

Forgiveness? But first, there must be confession and contrition. Reconciliation? But first, justice must be meted out. The truth has to be told, and justice served so that we can put a closure to the dark, ugly era of the dictatorship. Unless we have a closure, the past will continue to haunt us.

Erap for vice president in 2004?

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

JOSEPH Estrada for vice president in 2004? Why not? He is not barred by the Constitution from running. That is, if he is acquitted or not yet convicted for plunder by that time. And from the way the trial is proceeding and the dilatory tactics of Erap's lawyers, that is in the realm of possibility. If Romeo Jalosjos can successfully wage a congressional campaign from the Bilibid Prisons, why not Erap from his suite at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center?

Some people have been floating the Erap-for-vice-president idea recently and Erap himself, in an interview at his suite in the hospital, is not averse to it. After all, he still commands a big following. A recent survey showed that Erap still has the support of 38 percent of the voters. That's a big base. Fidel V. Ramos captured the presidency with only 22 percent of the votes. Any presidential candidate would be happy to have as running mate a candidate with 38 percent of the votes in his pocket.

While the Constitution forbids a president from running for another presidential term (even if, like Erap, he did not finish his first term), it does not prohibit a former president from running for vice president or for any other position. Thus, unless Erap is convicted with finality of a crime that includes disqualification from public office as penalty, he will be eligible to run for the No. 2 position in 2004.

The question is: Is he serious? Or is the idea being floated only to scare President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo into allowing Erap to go abroad, ostensibly for a knee operation but actually only to get him out of the way of her ambitions for 2004?

But put yourself in the shoes of Erap. He is facing the death penalty or life imprisonment. He is being defended by a team whose only defense strategy is to delay the trial. Wouldn't you be willing to try any method to save yourself? Like going abroad for a knee operation and not coming back, for instance.

* * *

Which brings us to Erap's knees. Does he really need an operation? And can it be done here?

The answers to both questions are "Yes." He needs an operation and it can be done here. There are 386 orthopedic surgeons in the Philippines, registered fellows of the Philippine Orthopedic Association (POA). Each one of them can do a joint replacement, the surgery that Erap needs. Total knee replacement is one of the most successful operations done world-wide. It has been done in the Philippines since the 1980s. (In the United State, almost 140,000 joint replacements are done every year.) Dr. Jose S. Pujalte Jr., an orthopedic surgeon at the Philippine Orthopedic Center, who briefed newsmen at the Sulo Hotel on what ails Erap, offered to do it for free for the former president.

According to Erap himself, an operation had been recommended for his knees since he was vice president but he kept putting it off because he was afraid. His father also had arthritic knees and was confined to a wheelchair. The tendency to have arthritis is inherited, but of the 10 siblings only Erap got it.

"Maybe it's because you used your knees too much," came a joke.

***"Panay nga ang praktis, eh wala pa rin,"* the ex-president, who has not lost his sense of humor, joked back.**

Erap now has the end stage of osteoarthritis, or degenerative joint disease. The smooth cartilage surrounding the bone ends, so that the joint glides smoothly, wears out, resulting in bone-to-bone contact. It is common in the elderly. It is a progressive disease and becomes increasingly painful as the cartilage erodes. Erap gets steroid injections to minimize the pain and inflammation but steroids are bad for the body.

To relieve the pain, restore the joint's function and achieve stability, total knee replacement is recommended. "As the arthritic knee becomes more painful," said Dr. Pujalte's briefing paper, "the patient will use it less. Function, therefore, is lost. As the arthritic knee continues to deform, the patient will feel that the joint is wobbly or unstable."

The operation replaces the diseased joint with implants which consist "of a metal block covering the end of a diseased thigh bone (femur), a plastic or plastic-on-metal combination for the leg bone (tibia) and a plastic button for the knee cap (patella)."

There are alternatives to surgery, there are many drugs for arthritis but only when the disease is discovered early, before joint damage is severe. But as I said earlier, Erap's osteoarthitis is already at the end stage and surgery is the only way.

However, while Dr. Pujalte said that while we have 386 orthopedic surgeons who can perform the surgery here and that we should respect our doctors who are very competent and let them do surgeries that can be done here, he also pointed out that a patient must have confidence in his doctor. Trust and confidence in a doctor help a lot in the quick recovery of the patient, he said.

So, should Erap be allowed to go abroad for knee surgery?

"If he has confidence only in his American doctor," Dr. Pujalte replied.

But will he come back when he is already abroad?

Yes, he will after four months, Erap's family insists. To guarantee his return, Sen. Loi Ejercito and San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito will sign written promises to resign their positions if Erap doesn't return.

Troth

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

FRANKLIN Drilon is confident that his bill allowing dual citizenship will soon be passed into law. It went through the committee on justice and human rights last week, attended by officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and other government agencies, and experienced smooth sailing. The bill proposes the automatic reacquisition of Filipino citizenship by those who lost it when they became foreign nationals. It proposes as well that only those ex-Filipinos who run for public office in their adopted countries be excluded from this.

Though this threatens to create a privileged class of Filipinos, says Drilon, it is made up for by its salutary aspects. It will "open up the economy to more Filipinos by allowing them to engage in economic areas and investments previously closed to them." More to the point, it will encourage Filipinos who became foreign nationals to visit more often or even retire or resettle here. It does not violate the Constitution, Drilon says, a point concurred in by other lawmakers. All the Constitution bans is dual allegiance, not dual citizenship.

Well, maybe there are some economic benefits to come from this. But I am astounded that Drilon and his colleagues should think there is a distinction between allegiance and citizenship. I am astounded that they should think it is possible to be a citizen of a country and not owe allegiance to it. I don't know what grade schools they went to, but mine insisted that citizenship was allegiance to a country. Mine insisted that to be a citizen of a country, by birth or by choice, was to swear allegiance to it.

I remember in this respect a poignant letter sent by a Filipino in the United States some time last year shortly after I wrote a series of columns on sense of country. The letter-writer described himself as someone in his late 20s who had gone to the United States to finish his graduate studies. Before he graduated, he did odd jobs on the side—and on the sly. After graduation, he landed a cushy job in upper Manhattan, and though he still longed to go back to the Philippines, it was all he could do to resist the material rewards that abundantly came his way.

He decided eventually to become an American citizen for the sake of convenience. Came the day of his swearing in, he stood in a small hall along with people of different races and colors and recited the oath of allegiance to the United States. Only then, he said, did he realize what exactly it meant to opt to become the citizen of another country. Citizenship was a jealous spouse, one that demanded absolute exclusivity and brooked no rivals. Suddenly, his family, his friends and his whole past flashed before him: It felt like he was giving all of them up. He consoled himself with the thought that what he was saying were just words—in his heart he still felt a Filipino. But for days afterward, he felt terribly guilty, as though he had committed an act of betrayal.

The experience of this letter-writer shows that the issue of dual citizenship is not a cut-and-dried one but has all sorts of nuances. On the positive side, quite apart from whatever economic benefits the country stands to gain from it, there is the matter of the quality of the people the country stands to gain from it. Quite paradoxically, it is people who have lost something who realize its true worth. It is people who have opted for a foreign citizenship, mainly American, or who work abroad as overseas Filipino workers, who realize what it means to be Filipino. It is from them at least that I have heard some of the most passionate professions of love of country, echoing Rizal's own. I got a lot of letters last year from them saying they still dreamt of coming back to the country one day.

But the disadvantages far outweigh the advantages. I've always maintained that the one thing we lack that other Asian have in abundance and which makes us backward and makes them progressive, is not a tremendous predilection for discipline (often of the stern, authoritarian, kind) but a tremendous sense of national pride. Granting Filipinos who have become American citizens a Filipino citizenship as well cannot possibly improve that situation. Whatever economic benefits we may gain from it is offset by its cheapening of the value of citizenship.

It's bad enough that the concept of independence or sovereignty has been cheapened by a non-elected and non-deserving President to the level of Japanese money by bringing back foreign troops in this country, the one thing her illustrious predecessors spent their lives trying to rid this country of. It's bad enough that the people you expect to show wisdom—legislators, jurists, academics—insist that being free and sovereign is being free and willing to shoot ourselves in the head. You add a concept that says Filipinos may be free to wear citizenship like the two sides of a sweater, and we will have nothing left. Nothing will be left sacred in this country. Nothing will be left to remind us that we were once a nation that harbored a proud people.

The words of the "Panatang Makabayan," which is the daily affirmation of our citizenship, are clear. They do not say, "I will serve my country in my heart." They say, "I will serve my country in thought, word and deed." The notion that you can swear allegiance to another country—paying taxes to it, and rendering military services to it when called upon—while being loyal to another in your heart of hearts is silly. It does a disservice to both countries. It is agreeing to marry another person for convenience while being loyal to a former lover.

My word is my troth. My word is my bond, my word is my honor, my word is my commitment. That is what we Filipinos used to say. You wonder whatever happened to it.

GMA should back up Sonny Alvarez

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

RECENTLY a newspaper (not the INQUIRER) quoted Dr. Christopher Mow, the American orthopedic surgeon at the Stanford University Hospital who has examined former President Estrada's arthritic knee, as saying that he did not like to come to Manila to do the operation on account of the unstable political situation. This was cited by Estrada's people as among the reasons he ought to be allowed to travel abroad for surgery.

Yesterday, however, this columnist spoke on the phone with Philippine Ambassador to Washington Alberto del Rosario, who's here on a visit, and he told me of a conversation he had with Mow two months ago in the US. The surgeon told the ambassador that he was making preparations to go to Manila to operate on the former president. Mow told Del Rosario he was bringing six staff members and some equipment with him. Apparently those plans have been changed, and Estrada's people now want him to fly to the US on the pretext that Mow is hesitant to come here.

I asked Del Rosario if the US surgeon could have changed his mind because of the political situation, and he pointed out that in fact the situation now is more stable than two months ago.

* * *

Tomorrow, at 9 a.m., Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez faces anew the Commission on Appointments' environment committee, chaired by Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., for another hearing on his confirmation. Reports say that Southern Tagalog congressmen are poised to block his confirmation as a favor to their colleague, Cavite Rep. Plaridel Abaya. The reason Abaya is opposing Alvarez's confirmation is that the environment secretary asked Malacañang to put on hold the appointment as environment assistant secretary of the congressman's son, former Environment Management Bureau (EMB) director Peter Abaya. Alvarez has accused Abaya of "grave misconduct" when the latter authorized the over-importation by 367.126 metric tons of very harmful chemical substances by eight fly-by-night importers in year 2000, the importation is estimated to be worth P400 million.

* * *

Since Alvarez is the secretary general of Lakas, it would be embarrassing and quite awkward if his confirmation is voted down in the CA, which is dominated by the party. Besides, he was a two-term senator and one-term representative. I understand that Alvarez is not expected to run into problems with the majority-dominated Senate contingent (seven vs five opposition), but the House panel, with 11 majority-party members and one opposition, could give him problems mainly because of the Southern Tagalog vote. Speaker Jose de Venecia, who chairs Lakas, is concerned about his partymate's fate, and has made overtures to Alvarez about allowing Peter Abaya to have his new post and deal with his case later. But Alvarez has refused, saying the issue against Abaya is too grave for compromise.

One has to hand it to Alvarez. Despite the fact that his confirmation is at stake, he refuses to change his stand. People of lesser stuff would have given in to expediency and withdrawn their opposition to a well-connected subordinate. Not Alvarez: he has chosen to slug it out in the CA without compromising his principled stand. Ultimately when the CA members vote on his case, it will be known if they are voting like horses with regional blinders, or as legislators with conviction.

* * *

Some weeks back, an aide of Alvarez gave me some documents on the Abaya case. After a cursory reading, I couldn't make heads or tails since the issue looked very technical. But after going over the complete files, I have realized that Abaya indeed has to answer many questions about the authorization he gave for the importation of excess toxic chemicals, which was protested by a number of international agencies. At the CA's environment committee's first hearing, Abaya claimed that Alvarez was unworthy of his Cabinet appointment because of his allegedly "very questionable integrity" and the "oppression and injustice" he got from him. Abaya charged that Alvarez persecuted him by putting an end to his DENR career, implying that he was a puny David being attacked by a Goliath. But watching this case develop in the CA, with the Tagalog congressmen banding together to protect a colleague's son, right or wrong, and what Alvarez termed "the well-funded vilification campaign against me in the media," it's becoming clear that it's the secretary who is the underdog.

* * *

This brings us to the question of where President Macapagal stands. She has been vocal about her support for Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho despite apparent instances when certain agencies under him took short-cuts to favor Code-NGO. However, in Alvarez's cases, she has been quiet. The public doesn't know whether she will fight for him or not. I submit that she has little choice but to back him up on the Abaya issue.

What should be clear is that Alvarez has refused support for a subordinate after a DENR investigation committee found a prima facie case against him. In other words, as he argued at the CA committee hearing, he was just doing his job. In fact, had Alvarez allowed Abaya's appointment as assistant secretary to go through without presenting the case against him to the Palace, he could have been guilty of dereliction of duty and would have been answerable to the Ombudsman. For insisting on good governance, despite the political peril for him, he deserves GMA's full support. If she fails to do so, that phrase loses its meaning in her administration.

A night of surprises and sisterhood

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

I DIDN'T expect any surprises from "Kababaihan: A Benefit Performance of The Vagina Monologues." After all, I'd seen TVM twice in the original English version, and once in Filipino.

But as Andrew Vergara, who directed the original TVM English version by New Voice Company, told me when I asked him what his favorite monologue was: "It all depends on the actors, because each one interprets it differently."

And indeed this is the biggest surprise of the evening. How familiar monologues are suddenly transformed when interpreted by different actors. And what actors they were!

Baby Barredo performed "Flood," the story of an elderly woman who had "shut down" her sexuality after an unfortunate encounter in adolescence. As performed, say, by Tami Monsod, the monologue is poignant and touching. By Barredo, it takes on a more earthy and direct tone, but also seems to be more personal and immediate.

Cecile Guidote-Alvarez joined Dulce Aristorenas and Bibeth Orteza in a performance of the "Vagina Workshop," the story of a woman's discovery of her sensuality. When I marveled aloud at Cecile's vigorous, energetic but touchingly authentic portrayal, Alya Honasan remarked: "Of course, she's an excellent actor; Mother Peta *yata 'yan!*" Indeed, one is so used to thinking of Cecile as a Magsaysay awardee, a theater organizer and educator, an environmental activist, and even a Cabinet member's wife, that it's easy to forget that she is first and foremost an excellent actor.

Nanette Inventor and Winnie Monsod performed "Because He Liked to Look at It," a woman's happy and indeed transcendent experience with a man who loved vaginas. Again, both astounded with their sure readings, their life experiences adding new dimensions to the monologue.

So when Mitch Valdes capped the segment with a rousing version of "Try a Little Tenderness," her "advice to men on how to treat women," the older women backstage whooped with a newfound energy and verve. "How's that for 50-year-old vaginas, huh?" Mitch asked the audience, and indeed it felt good to celebrate one's years and experience, instead of continually ruing it.

* * *

BUT it was Zeneida Amador's performance of a new monologue, "Under the Burqa," Eve Ensler's tribute to the women of Afghanistan, that really blew us away.

Tita Bibot came onstage in shorts and a large T-shirt. In a conversation backstage, I had asked if the members of the cast would be provided with hair-and-make-up services. "I don't think so," she said, but added that "I've stopped worrying about such things because I've decided people should either take me as I am or not. It's not my problem."

So standing there, in the flood of stage lights, asking the audience to "imagine" living beneath an ever-present shroud, seeing the world through a small slit in one's burqa, with no peripheral vision, invisible in your individuality, Amador sent a message as well about how women live our lives through disguises, even if not always in the form of a burqa.

The material lent itself easily to melodrama and pathos. But as Tita Bibot performed it, with great restraint and subtlety, it was moving in the extreme.

Eve Ensler was obviously moved, marveling how she had traveled thousands of miles to hear "Under the Burqa" performed by a Filipina who gave her words new dimensions of meaning.

* * *

THERE were surprises, as well, from younger actors.

"The Little Coochie Snorcher that Could" tells a woman's evolving attitude toward her sexuality, that began with parental restrictions, and an early brush with molestation and violence that gave rise to feelings of guilt and self-loathing. For the V-Day celebration, New Voice Company fielded its pre-pubescent members to speak the woman's childhood stories. Hearing the words spoken by their authentic childish voices transported the experience of hearing them again. Angelu de Leon, who took on the part of the teenage narrator, was appropriately sassy yet innocent.

A word of appreciation and admiration, though, for the parents of the young NVC members, who believed enough in the project and in their daughters' maturity to entrust them with such sensitive material.

Also delivering a powerful performance was Angel Aquino in "My Vagina was My Village," the account of a Bosnian rape victim. But what made her monologue all the more powerful was that it was preceded by the accounts of two women who had survived real-life experiences of battery and incest. Beth Bacalso of the Women's Crisis Center and Maring Tuazon of Gabriela spoke from experience and from the heart, reminding everyone that the monologues were based on the testimonials of hundreds of real women.

* * *

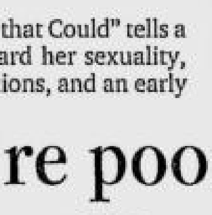
IT was indeed quite an experience, speaking as both a cast member and part of the audience (albeit watching the proceedings through a monitor). As we trooped onstage at the show's close, taking our bows, I couldn't help wondering if we would ever again witness such a gathering of women.

There we all were—the famous, the semi-famous and the obscure, theater stalwarts and neophytes, celebrities and activists, dancers, singers, writers, survivors—dancing, singing, swaying and savoring the sisterhood of women.

And in the audience—our sisters, our friends, our husbands, our children, the comfort women *lolas*—all sharing in the dream of a life free from violence, of a world where women's stories of fear, repression, pain and anger need no longer be told because they would no longer take place. *Harinawa*!

Who said we're poor?

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY



Bambi L.Harper

WELL, maybe today, with all the debts incurred in our name, we are. But way back when, we certainly had a wealth of natural resources. At the turn of the century the Jesuits, who were back in the good graces of the Pope and the king of Spain after having been disbanded and expelled, made a collection of data about the Philippines published under the simple title of "El Archipelago Filipino." We have selected only a few of these items just to give you a rough idea.

There were fragrant oils mentioned early in the Friar Chronicles as one of the items used for barter with the Chinese traders such as *ajonjoli* or sesame. (The bottle I usually buy these days is imported from Hong Kong). Fifty-three percent of the seeds, we are told, contained sweet tasting oil, similar to olive oil. It was used in cosmetics and emulsions while the seed covers were used as fertilizer or feed for livestock.

The seeds of the *lumbang* tree also contained oil of good quality and considered excellent for paint, calking ships and lamplight. Seed covers were also utilized for fertilizer in plantations of *buyo* or betel nut. (Anyone see any *lumbang* trees lately)?

Reddish oil was extracted from the *recino* that was originally from India. The Tagalogs called it *tangan-tangan and* used 40 percent of the oil for purgatives. Medicinal concoctions were made from it and it was also used for illumination. The plant grew in the Visayan coasts and in the Ilocos where it was known as *tavatava*.

Since the Philippines up to a certain point produced excellent cotton textile, plants that produced dye were widely known. (It is said we were undone and obviously continue to be undone by the silks from China and calico from England). *Anil* (indigo or *tayum* locally) grew wild and was found in Bataan, Batangas, Bulacan, Laguna, Pangasinan, Pampanga, Zambales and especially in the Ilocos (where today you find instead all sorts of cheap second-hand goods from Taiwan). Juice was extracted from the leaves and from dried cuttings to produce a blue dye.

Tell me if you've heard of any of these trees or shrubs or seen hide or hair of them. There was *subacao*, reportedly abundant in our forests, whose tree trunk produced a red dye used for cotton and wool. It was exported to China to dye silk, damask and satin and to England for their cottons. Threads from *alazor* or saffron (local name *biri*), soluble in water, generated two colors of yellow dye, and in alkali, produced a red dye. Bark from the *aguisip* or *bancuro* trees was dried into a powder to make dyes for blankets. *Balanti* or *cumalon*, local ebony trees, produced a black dye.

To protect their boats from rotting, fishermen would cover them first with a red dye extracted from any of the following plants: *dayagao, beloto, dugna* and *hagus*. (None of these unfortunately I've ever heard of; if they still exist, I doubt that anyone knows their usefulness). Dye from *ananaplas* was used for leather goods, soles and horse saddles.

The *yuca* is our *camoteng kahoy* from where you get tapioca. You can also produce a poison from the newly harvested and cut tuber that can kill in a more elegant manner than guns, stabbing, strangulation and beheading. However the good Jesuits did not leave us the formula.

In case you didn't know it, arrowroot is produced from *sagu*. (A couple of weeks ago, I needed some for a recipe and couldn't find any for love or money. As a matter of fact, none of the sales people in various stores I went to knew what arrowroot was.)

The number of medicinal plants was phenomenal. In the 20th century, foreign pharmaceutical firms discovered the use of a mushroom from Iloilo to produce *erethrocin*. (They are testing the *ampalaya* for high-blood pressure medicines.) *Sibucao* thinned the blood (those of you taking aspilets, think about it). For cleaning, closing and curing wounds, the roots of the *cumalibquib* or *himangcoran* were scrapped to make an infusion while those of the *dalanotan, hagonoy* and *bulangon* were cooked with oil and the juice extracted for the same purpose.

From both the leaves and the bark of the *haulig* an infusion with water was made to wash the eyes, clear and conserve vision. (Unfortunately I wouldn't know what the majority of these species are even if I were looking at them, not being a plant person.) *Culasi* was used for sores and the bark and leaves of the *canumay* and *lagnoto* emitted a resin that was used to cauterize wounds.

There existed a huge tree that was called *panjantolon* whose leaves and bark were boiled to produce an infusion to cure syphilis and relax aching muscles. The roots of the *banag* (family of zarzaparilla) were used for fever and to "expel bad humors" (whatever that meant). Finally we had the leaves of the *bagobago* that resembled those of the *zapote* that were heated and applied warm on a swelling. These also served to calm the nerves and remove muscle aches.

Who knows which of these species still exist? Remember that it was only 50 years after independence that a building was set aside for use as a Museum of Natural History, including Botany. So far nothing has been done about it. The fact that not much importance, emphasis or focus is placed on that science ensures that we will continue to look for the wealth of this country in libraries and archives, leaving investments (we prefer shopping malls) and research to other countries. Then we have the temerity to complain about exploitation.

The blue room

YOUNGBLOOD

Francis Sevilla

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

THE ROOM was painted blue and had a worn-out floor. I stood in front of a large office desk that was at the entrance of the two-story building. A sign on it said, "Officer's Desk." And behind the desk was a man who must have been in his late 30s, obviously the highest-ranking officer in the police station.

I looked around the room once again. It was just a few days before Christmas and so I wasn't surprised to see in a far corner a poorly decorated Christmas tree. I supposed the policemen were too busy to improve the decorations.

On the wall to my left were posted information about missing persons, wanted criminals, department positions and other things I that knew nothing about. Far inside were three separate rooms without doors. Like the Christmas tree, these rooms were badly decorated or, should I say, badly equipped—with their broken windows, chipped desks, rusty file cabinets, unused typewriters. I wondered how people in the place could enjoy doing their work.

I stood again in front of the huge desk and glanced at my companion. He and I had gone to this police station in Novaliches to conduct an interview for his research paper on prostitution. Our mission was very simple: to give a questionnaire to a police officer for him to answer.

I thought it would take only a few minutes of his time. But the police officer thought otherwise. He told us to come back some other time because he had other things to do, although it wasn't clear to us what, for he seemed to be doing nothing at the time.

My companion persisted, telling the police officer he needed his opinions very badly and quite urgently. After a lot of explaining and pleading, the officer finally relented. He told us to wait (again?) while he processed some official papers.

My friend and I didn't bother to sit down. He watched the officer work on his papers while my eyes wandered around the room again.

It was the first time I had visited a police station and my expectations were quite high. I had expected to see something like those I had seen on television or the movies. But this place didn't look like any of those at all. The only thing that came close were the men in uniform—and some of them even looked shabby and unfit to be wearing it. I could imagine the surprise on their faces if their superiors suddenly made an unexpected visit.

I was enjoying the thought when I noticed the jail cell to my right where some juvenile delinquents were confined. My first reaction was fear. Although many of them were accused of some minor offenses like small-time theft and shoplifting, the look on their rugged faces was enough to make me shudder a little. Then I felt ashamed about my revulsion, followed quickly by a feeling of pity for them. Pity because it suddenly occurred to me that among all the people in that building, only my friend and I could be said to look decent. We were both neatly dressed and innocent, unaware of the cruel reality surrounding the place. I also felt a bit ashamed because I knew that it wasn't easy and comfortable to stay in such a dark, dirty and ghastly place, where the space was cramped and hygiene was poor, while I was living in a nice home, together with my family and friends, enjoying some of life's luxuries, without really feeling grateful and contented. I always yearned for more, for better and nicer things than what I already had. The thought really bothered me.

I was still reflecting on all these things when a commotion broke out. Some policemen had caught a snatcher and brought him to the station. Following behind them was the victim who seemed to be in her early 40s, and she was trying to hit the suspect with her bag.

Then people suddenly appeared out of nowhere to watch the scene. The police station instantly looked like a marketplace.

I heard the sound of a fist landing on somebody's face. Then it was a kick delivered to the body, followed by a cry of pain. Four more punches and kicks hit the snatcher, each one followed a scream.

My friend and I were shocked. We stood there in silence, as if we were watching a circus, awestruck by leaping acrobats. We knew there was such a thing as police brutality, but we never thought it was done in public.

A few minutes later, there was another commotion inside the station. Another snatcher had been caught, and you know what happened next.

I couldn't say anything. I felt so naïve and I hated it. And yet I kept asking myself why they allow such things to happen. Doesn't anybody care at all? I wondered.

As I turned away, a sign caught my sight. "Secrecy is the best policy," it read. Now I knew one reason such things happened. Secrecy. A conspiracy of silence involving the police and civilians.

I had thought all along that a police station was a place where a citizen could feel safe and secure, not terrified and helpless. I was wrong. I couldn't stand it anymore. The place gave me the creeps. It was worse than a haunted house.

I asked my friend if we could already leave and he immediately agreed. He didn't even bother to retrieve his questionnaire. As we walked past the crowd, I was thinking that there ought to be a better police station than this one.

As we passed through the door, I saw another sign which said: "What you see, what you hear, when you leave, leave it here." Sorry, but I couldn't help myself.

Francis Sevilla, 18, is a physical therapy freshman in a university in Manila.

THEY SAID

Quality, not volume

"There's no way we can compete with China in terms of volume, but in terms of quality, we still have an edge."
—Matsushita Philippines director Reynaldo Lico on the Philippines' competitive advantage

Dilangalen's bet

"I would put at stake my integrity, honor and reputation that the former president would return."
—Rep. Didagen Dilangalen, the main proponent of the House resolution to allow former President Joseph Estrada to have surgery abroad

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

ROTC and alternatives cut to one year

I READ with great interest the editorial in the Feb. 15 issue of the INQUIRER. The ROTC as you very well argued is badly in need of reform. Indeed, we have to take immediate and sweeping steps if only to honor the memory of UST cadet officer Mark Chua who was killed after exposing the incompetence, corruption and abuse pervasive in today's Reserve Officers Training Corps.

I am pleased to inform you that Congress has already acted with dispatch on my bill, co-authored by Rep. Florencio Abad, instituting reforms in the ROTC under a new National Service Training Program (NSTP). Last Jan. 23, without much fanfare, the President signed into law RA 9613, which not only makes the ROTC optional and voluntary but also shortens the period of training under any of the programs from four semesters to two semesters.

Therefore, starting next school year, college students will not only have a choice of three programs—Literacy Training Service and Civic Welfare Service or ROTC—but will also undertake training for only one academic year.

As you stated in your editorial, I completely agree that reforms should not stop at the introduction of new programs; not even at the shortening of the training period. This is precisely the reason why the law now provides that the whole NSTP will no longer be supervised by the Department of National Defense but by the Commission on Higher Education or the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, as the case may be. Moreover, school authorities are granted unprecedented academic and administrative powers over the implementation of any of the NSTP programs, including the ROTC, in their respective schools. Thus, a student taking up Literacy Training will not have to report to the ROTC brass. Moreover, the school authorities can now complain over the conduct of the ROTC or even the choice of commandants assigned to them by the DND.

We understand that reform will only be half-baked if the ROTC program itself will be left untouched. Thus, the law requires the defense department to de-emphasize the ROTC's excessive orientation toward defense preparedness and the military mindset. In addition to basic military tenets the reformed ROTC will now contain instruction on patriotism, discipline, moral values, respect for human rights and the Constitution, among others. I am hopeful that the Armed Forces will undertake the necessary measures to effect changes this coming school year as required by law. Through these measures, we can begin the democratization and demilitarization of the National Service Program which your editorial passionately discussed.

Though I am one of the law's principal authors, RA 9163 is the product of many minds in Congress. Acknowledgement should go to Representatives Florencio Abad and Harlin Cast Abayon and Sen. Rene Cayetano.

—ANTONIO EDUARDO B. NACHURA, representative, House of Representatives, Quezon City

Victory over Abu Sayyaf just a matter of time

WE are reacting to Howie Severino's piece on the Philippine military in his commentary last Feb. 15 in the INQUIRER, not to sound defensive, but to enlighten him about the issues that he brought up.

For a journalist of his caliber, Severino's observations on the real issue behind the US forces' presence in Mindanao and the very much publicized Lamitan fiasco last year are severely wanting in facts and careful and accurate examination of data. It is for this reason, and for the sake of discussion that we would like to cite our tactical accomplishments and the figures that we have recorded in our campaign against the Abu Sayyaf

The Abu Sayyaf started with 22 hostages in the Dos Palmas incident. This figure rose to 93 when the brigands took more hostages along the routes of their escape from the pursuing government forces. From that high figure, the latest count is down to three hostages—an accomplishment indeed worth informing the public about. What makes this number still sensational is perhaps the fact that two of the three hostages are an American missionary couple, the Burnhams.

Even before the US Special Forces came to Mindanao, the military had already some close brushes with the Abu Sayyaf. Together with it came the prospect of rescuing the remaining hostages. But luck just wasn't on our side.

At this point in time, we have limited the Abu Sayyaf's freedom of movement and isolated them in a small area. We have also cut off most of their supply lines. As a consequence, some of the terrorists are now suffering from different illnesses due to lack of food and medicine.

From April 27 last year up to Feb. 18, this year, we have neutralized a total of 367 Abu Sayyaf members broken down as follows: 81 apprehended; 101 surrendered; 65 captured and 105 killed. More importantly, a significant number have either lain low or deserted the group and its cause. As a result, Abu Sayyaf leaders Abu Sabaya and the Japilon brothers have also been sending surrender feelers to our monitoring elements.

Also during the same time frame, 64 government soldiers have lost their lives and 260 others were wounded in action.

Considering these figures and developments, it is only a matter of time before we can attain victory. This may sound like a worn-out line but we must take extra precautions before launching any decisive measure in the hope that we will rescue the hostages, particularly the Burnhams, unharmed.

As regards the other questions that Severino raised in his commentary, we believe that it would only be a waste of effort to answer them as they have been addressed and discussed time and again in countless fora, congressional investigations and by the mass media in the recent past.

We call on our citizens to unite in the government's effort against terrorism, because the military's gain in this war is the gain of every peace-loving and freedom-loving Filipino.

We would appreciate greatly if Severino would coordinate with this office so that we can provide him with figures and other data that he can use for his future commentaries.

—LT. COL. JOSE Z. MABANTA JR., INF (GSC) PA, Office of the Army Chief Public Affairs, Fort Andres Bonifacio, Makati City

Unasked questions about Erap's case

WITH all the hullabaloo over whether or not to allow former President Joseph Estrada to go to the United States, has anyone considered the following?

When Erap is away will the trial be suspended until he returns? What will happen to the other co-accused like lawyer—Edward Serapio and Jinggoy Estrada? Will they remain in jail? What if they are innocent? It would be unfair to make them wait until Estrada returns for the trial to proceed. Can Estrada be tried in absentia?

If Estrada is given this privilege, it is not farfetched to imagine Jinggoy also claiming that his ailment can only be cured in the United States.

Cannot the court require Estrada to have his doctor come over and do the job here, like an extended house call?

The US government may not allow him to return if the Philippine government will request extradition. It is not a policy of the US government to extradite persons who face trial for a crime that is punishable by death.

If Estrada is finally convicted of plunder and he is sentenced to death, don't our laws also provide that no convict shall be executed if he is sick. With his knee problem, can't he then escape execution if convicted for plunder? Still we will know without question that he betrayed the Filipino people. No need to execute him then.

I am not a lawyer so I hope these questions will be answered.

—ROMULO R. SISON, 18 Sunrise St., SSS Vill., Concepcion Dos, Marikina City

Junior INQUIRER
Summer Cartoo
300-Foot Long Painting!
INQUIRER
Every Saturday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer

Erap can learn from prominent martial law detainees

WILL former President Joseph Estrada and his son, Jinggoy take time off from whining about their detention for plunder at the comfortable Veterans Memorial Medical Center to learn "grace under pressure" during imprisonment?

The lives of many people detained by the Marcos dictatorship provide such lessons. Among others, these prisoners included Senators Benigno Aquino, Jose Diokno, Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo and Free Press editor Teodoro Locsin Sr. and Joaquin "Chino" Roces of the old Manila Times.

Never did these men wheedle to secure "special privileges" for themselves. Nor did they flinch, whether from half-starvation in the Laur military camp, solitary confinement in Fort Bonifacio or side-tracked by a supine Supreme Court.

In martial law prison, their conduct reflected the "La Pasionaria" dictum: "Better to die free on one's feet than to live as a slave on one's knees." But then, they were not moral pygmies.

—JUAN L. MERCADO, Press Foundation of Asia, Manila

'Only a movie'

I WAS quite surprised with the amount of mail I got, reacting to my column about the movie "Black Hawk Down." I had questioned whether the movie was an attempt at history or at propaganda, pointing out its many serious omissions and distortions about the role of the United States in Somalia.

"It's only a movie." That was the gist of one e-mail from a Filipino now living in the United States. He talked about how he used to write "anti-American" stuff back at the University of the Philippines but now that he had lived in the States—New York City, to be specific—he had learned how fair Americans were.

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

I couldn't agree more, after having lived in the United States as well, but this is why, precisely, I react so strongly to films like "Black Hawk Down." For a country that emphasizes fairness and political correctness so much, it is amazing how Americans try to impose their world-view on everyone else. That includes movies such as "Black Hawk Down," which depicts Americans as out to save Somalia and getting assaulted in return by the "ungrateful" natives.

Sadly, as I saw in the e-mail sent to me, this made-in-the-USA world-view is in fact very effectively being imposed on the more gullible, especially in the Philippines. Most of the letters defended the United States rather than the movie. One Filipino reader repeated the standard American line that the United States intervened in Somalia to prevent a famine. Another angry e-mail challenged me to give my sources, which I did in the column, but then what can you do when people aren't interested in the facts?

I can now give still another source, a Somali who first e-mailed me to say he appreciated my clarifying the distortions in the film. "I don't need a movie like 'Black Hawk Down,'" Garre wrote, "because I was in Mogadishu when it happened." I later asked Garre for more information about his country and he sent a good summary of the main issues relating to US intervention in Somalia, facts which you don't find in movies like "Black Hawk Down" or in most of the articles that have come out about Somalia, at least from the United States.

Garre says that the deployment in 1992 of 28,000 American troops (I guess that should console us, since "only" 660 *Kano* troops have been sent here for "war games") was indeed justified by the first George Bush as a mission to "feed the starving people." But Garre articulates the view of many Somalis that the reasons for the troop deployment were really more geopolitical and economic, with Somalia used as a pawn.

Garre points out Somalia is in the Horn of Africa, controlling access to the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. The US government has lusted for this strategic area for many years, hoping to set up a permanent base there.

Somalia is oil-rich, too. In the 1980s every major Western oil company—including American giants Conoco, Amoco, Chevron—was in Somalia. When civil unrest broke out, the US government knew they had to do something to protect these companies' interests. It is this same interest in oil that motivated the younger Bush—voted in partly with oil money—to strike Afghanistan with such ferocity. Think, too, about Mindanao and its rich resources, and the Americans' interests there.

Garre also talks about the "Pentagon factor, the need for an enemy and a mission." He quotes Colin Powell, then head of the joint chiefs of staff of the US Armed Forces, who called the operations in Somalia "a paid political advertisement" to maintain their military budget. Today again, we see the intervention in Mindanao as another political gimmick, not just to justify a bloated American military budget but to keep Bush's (and Ms Macapagal's) ratings high.

As for all this talk about saving Somalis from famine, long before US troops came, the country was already swarming with international, including American, NGOs all out to "save the natives." The United States poured $4 billion in development aid, most of which, Garre points out, went to salaries of the expats. And when Somalia collapsed, thanks to the Americans' blundering, the NGOs withdrew, leaving Somalia in worse shape than before.

Sure, "Black Hawk Down" is "only a movie." but these movies are powerful propaganda tools that further skew the already unbalanced access of information people have about international affairs.

This takes us to that "Abu Sayyaf" video released by the Armed Forces. While "Black Hawk Down" committed sins of omission, the Abu Sayyaf video went in the other direction with its imagery overkill. It's total nonsense to say the video's gory scenes were needed to convince Filipinos that the Abu Sayyaf are barbaric. The killers of the American journalist Daniel Pearl also produced a video showing his execution but it is unlikely the video will be aired. The following quote from someone who saw the tape is dry but powerful: "The scene that apparently confirmed the murder of Pearl was when one person's hand cut the US reporter's neck with a sharp tool."

Our government, by showing the beheading scenes, is not out to inform but to fan hatred by pandering to people's base instincts. In a situation where there is already so much misinformation about Islam, that video only intensifies Filipino Christians' negative stereotyped views of Muslims. I have seen the video several times on television and never was the footage accompanied by commentaries from representatives of the Muslim community to get their views, and their condemnation of the executions.

Think hard about how Filipino Christians are raised to look at Muslims. We think of "*juramentado*," of "amok" and now beheadings. Honestly, can you remember any local television documentary that presents Filipino Muslims in a positive light?

Think now of Somalia. What images come to mind? The mobs dragging a dead American soldier through the street. "Black Hawk Down." Are there alternative images?

It's not just a movie, or a video.

Error and contradiction

I REFER to the report titled "No evidence, no raps vs Indon terror suspect" (PDI, 2/20/02), and wish to point out that your report regarding Malaysian national, Azmi Salleh, was erroneous. Your assertion that he was deported was incorrect, and referring to him as "another terrorism suspect" while clearly stating that he had been cleared of suspicion of involvement in any terrorist groups was certainly a contradiction.

Kindly allow me to clarify matters for the benefit of your readers. Investigation revealed that Azmi Salleh was in Manila to apply for Haj visas for 105 of his Malaysian clients since the quota for the Haj was exhausted in Malaysia. At the time he was detained at the Naia, Azmi, upon realizing that he was unable to secure those visas, was leaving Manila with his clients' genuine passports and money collected as fees from them.

Azmi Salleh, at the time of his detention on Feb. 7, 2002 did not commit any offense or violate any Philippine law, including the immigration and customs laws, and yet he was wrongly detained for almost eight days. As you correctly stated in your report, Azmi Salleh was cleared of supposedly being a terrorist or suspected terrorist, and released by Philippine authorities to the custody of the Malaysian embassy on Feb. 15, 2002. A total of $57,250 and 104 Malaysian passports belonging to Azmi's clients were also returned to the embassy.

Azmi left for Malaysia on Feb. 18, not deported, with his reputation and integrity tarnished by irresponsible media reports and statements apparently issued by certain quarters.

—BALA CHANDRAN THARMAN, second secretary, Embassy of Malaysia, 107 Tordesillas St., Salcedo Vill., Makati City

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Israeli tanks pull out from Arafat HQ

RAMALLAH, West Bank—Israeli tanks pulled back on Monday from Yasser Arafat's West Bank headquarters in Ramallah where they have confined the Palestinian leader since mid-December, the Army said.

But the situation remained tense in the West Bank.

Palestinian security and hospital sources said Israeli soldiers shot dead a Palestinian man and wounded his pregnant wife and father at a military checkpoint on Monday.

The tank withdrawal from Ramallah followed a decision by Israel's Cabinet to ease restrictions on Arafat's movements. But it did not allow the Palestinian leader to leave the West Bank city, where he has been held under virtual house arrest.

"In accordance with government directives, Israel defense forces left before dawn the area under Palestinian rule in the city of Ramallah," the Army said in a statement.

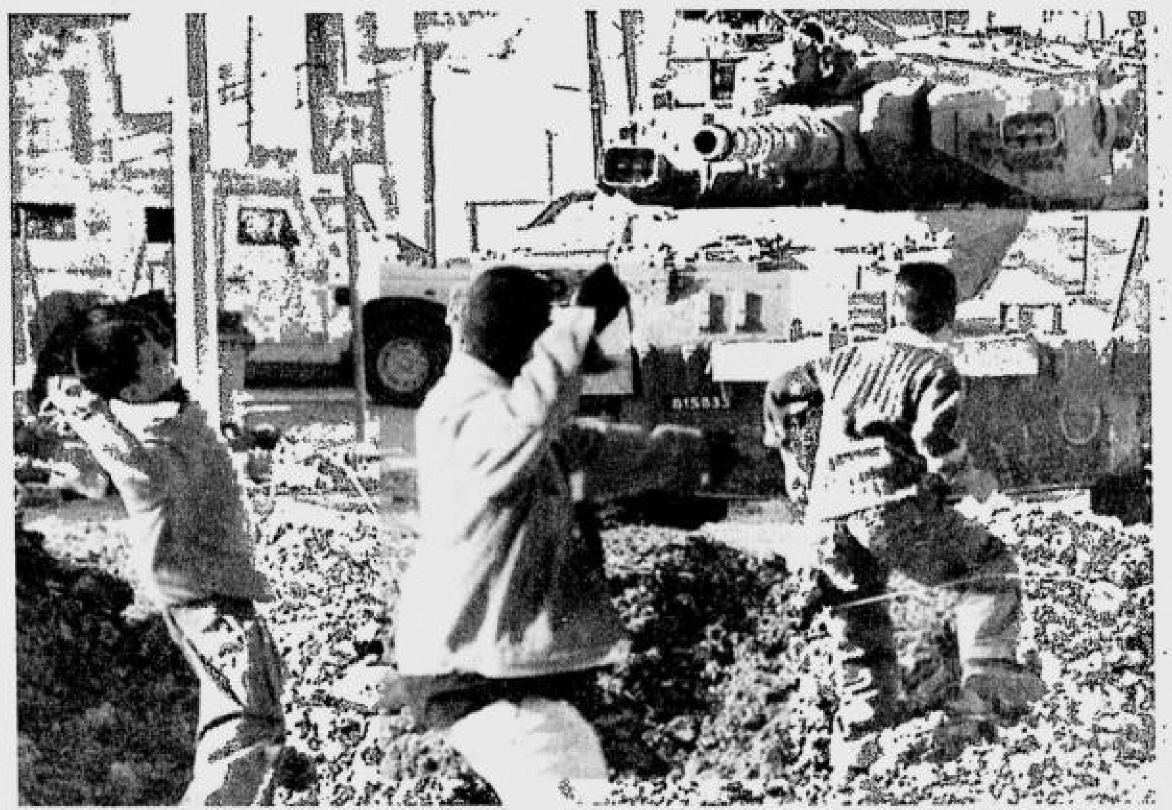
The decision on Sunday to keep Arafat in Ramallah drew swift Palestinian condemnation and cancellation of joint security talks.

Palestinian officials said that allowing Arafat to move within Ramallah was not a concession as the Palestinian leader had recently moved inside the city unhindered.

Palestinian security sources said the Palestinian man who was shot dead on the outskirts of the northern West Bank city of Nablus had been taking his 22-year-old wife to the hospital.

The sources said soldiers fired at their car near the Balata refugee camp. The man's father was seriously hurt.

Israeli military sources said soldiers "signaled a car to stop at a roadblock near the Nablus refugee camp of Balata but the car reversed and tried to circumvent the roadblock and the soldiers opened fire." *Reuters*



PALESTINIAN youths throw stones at an Israeli tank near the office of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat during clashes in the West Bank City of Ramallah, Feb. 24. Israel decided on Sunday to keep Palestinian President Yasser Arafat confined to the West Bank city of Ramallah even though he has ordered the arrest of militants wanted by Israel.

REUTERS

Colombia presidential bet kidnapped by rebs

BOGOTA—Ingrid Betancourt, a candidate in Colombia's May presidential elections, has been kidnapped by leftist rebels but has not been harmed, a photographer traveling with her said Sunday.

Betancourt, 40, "is in the hands of the rebels, who have not harmed her," said French photographer Alain Keler of Marie-Claire magazine, who was also taken hostage but later released along with two of Betancourt's campaign aides.

"We were all well treated," Keler said in a telephone interview from the Liborio Mejia barracks in Florencia, some 700 km south of the capital, following his release.

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) guerrillas kidnapped Betancourt and her campaign manager as she attempted to drive Saturday into the southern town of San Vicente del Caguan, Betancourt's spokesperson Diana Rodriguez said early Sunday.

Betancourt had insisted on driving to San Vicente, the main town in the former FARC stronghold, despite warnings from Colombian officials that it was highly risky to do so.

Betancourt comes from a distinguished family of politicians and is widely respected for her strong legislative career, but support for her presidential quest, according to polls, is in the two-percent range.

BETANCOURT

The government immediately called for Betancourt, who represents the tiny Green Oxygen Party, to be released.

"We regret this action, and we call on those holding Ingrid Betancourt to respect her life and release her," said Interior Minister Armando Villa Estrada.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan condemned the kidnapping, describing it as "a clear violation of international humanitarian law," according to a statement read by spokesperson Fred Eckhard.

"Ingrid absolutely wanted to travel to San Vicente del Caguan," Keler said. "When she didn't manage to get aboard an Army helicopter, we took to the road Saturday with white flags strapped to the roof of the car, a sign saying "Press" and another saying "Ingrid, election candidate." *AFP*

Top US general thinks Bin Laden still alive

WASHINGTON—Saudi-born militant Osama bin Laden is probably alive despite US efforts to kill or capture the al-Qaida leader, a top US general said on Sunday.

"It's possible that he is no longer alive, but I think the odds are he probably is alive," Gen. Richard Myers, chair of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, said on "Fox News Sunday."

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said there was no new evidence that Bin Laden survived military strikes against his al-Qaida operations in Afghanistan after the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

"There has not been any recent evidence that he's alive. That does not mean he's not alive," said Rumsfeld on CBS' "Face the Nation."

"He may be in Afghanistan. I think that's the likeliest possibility. He could be across the border in a neighboring country," Rumsfeld said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Bin Laden's whereabouts have been unknown for months, with reports surfacing that he had died of a kidney ailment or was killed in US assaults in Afghanistan.

The New York Times reported on Sunday that unidentified US administration officials said they have new indications that Bin Laden is living along the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan.

The newspaper said other officials said Bin Laden may also be hiding in southeastern Afghanistan and adjacent tribal areas in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier and Baluchistan provinces that have been strongholds of Islamic militancy.

In Sunday talk show appearances, the military officials and the ranking Republican on the Senate Intelligence Committee agreed that even if Bin Laden has survived, operations of his al-Qaida network have been crippled.

Rumsfeld said he did not think Bin Laden was in a position to engineer additional attacks.

"The real test is, is he able to manage effectively the al-Qaida network and engage in additional terrorist acts. The short answer is no," Rumsfeld said on CBS.

And Richard Shelby of Alabama, top Republican on the Senate Intelligence Committee, said on CNN's "Late Edition" that he agreed with estimates there are 100 or more al-Qaida operatives in the United States with enough training to act on their own. *Reuters*

Thailand revokes 2 reporters' visas

BANGKOK—Thailand has revoked the visas of two foreign journalists working for the Hong Kong-based Far Eastern Economic Review magazine, saying they are a threat to national security and sparking an outcry over press freedom.

The Review's Bangkok bureau chief, Shawn Crispin, 33, an American citizen, and correspondent Rodney Tasker, 56, a British national, said Monday they had received letters from the Immigration Police notifying them of the decision.

Police said the move followed the Review's publication of articles on the Thai royal family, as well as on businesses run by the family of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.

"What they wrote fell within the legal definition of being a threat to national security. We therefore have to revoke their rights to reside in the country," Immigration Police Chief Lt. Gen. Hemaraj Thareethai told reporters. *Reuters*

Cleared after 40 years

PERTH, Australia—A man jailed for killing his girlfriend almost 40 years ago was finally cleared of the crime by a court which ruled here Monday that he had been wrongly convicted.

John Button, now a 57-year-old bricklayer, served five years of a 10-year sentence for the manslaughter of his girlfriend Rosemary Anderson, 17, who died after a hit-and-run accident on Feb. 9, 1963.

At Button's trial in May 1963 the jury acquitted him of willful murder but convicted him of manslaughter.

Monday's ruling by the West Australian Court of Criminal Appeal came after a decade-long crusade by a Perth journalist-turned-author Estelle Blackburn to clear Button's name. *AFP*

FOR ALL YOUR COVERING NEEDS OF ANY TYPE, SHAPE AND SIZE-
AWNINGS AND CANOPIES, GARDEN/PARTY TENTS, CAR TENTS,
CAMPING TENTS AND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES.

tenthaus
WHERE QUALITY IS AT ITS BEST
• FOR FAST, RELIABLE, DEPENDABLE SERVICE.
• TRIED AND TESTED FOR THE PAST 28 YEARS.

ALSO AVAILABLE PARTY TENTS FOR RENT
CREDIT CARDS HONORED

SAVE THE ECONOMY! BUY PILIPINO

Main Office : 2/F VILLAFUERTE 111 BLDG.
279 ALABANG-ZAPOTE RD. (FRONTING EVER-GOTESCO) • TEL: 872-3788 • 872-9067
BRANCHES :
#27 KAMIAS • TEL: 922-0432
#1140 PASONG TAMO • TEL: 895-5484
FAX: 872-2332 • E-MAIL: tenthaus@info.com

It's the world's best family holiday destination! Close to home!

New Zealand & Australia

17 DAYS AUCKLAND/WAITOMO/ROTORUA DUNEDIN/QUEENSTOWN/DOUBTFUL SOUND/GLACIERS/TRANS-ALPINE CHRISTCHURCH/SYDNEY/GOLD COAST
from US$ 2489
12 DAYS CHRISTCHURCH/MT COOK / QUEENSTOWN/SYDNEY/GOLD COAST
from US$ 1787
13 DAYS AUCKLAND/WAITOMO/ROTORUA TAUPO/NAPIER/WELLINGTON/ AUCKLAND/SYDNEY/GOLD COAST
from US$ 1878
Inquire about our Easter Departure!
Promo 5 Days for Two valid until Mar 15 only US$ 1202

10 DAYS GOLD COAST/SYDNEY/ MELBOURNE
from US$ 1502
8 DAYS GOLD COAST/RAINFOREST ISLAND RESORT
from US$ 1230
6 DAYS GOLD COAST
from US$ 902
Bonus FREE Travel Insurance

LET'S GO
CONTACT YOUR TRAVEL AGENT
TRADE INQUIRIES: 8152956 / 8179871
GREAT VACATIONS
INTERNATIONAL TOUR WHOLESALER
TA LICENSE NO MKTI-008 2002

CUT OUT THIS AD AND CLAIM A SPECIAL GIFT WHEN YOU BUY YOUR VULCAN*

IMPORTED FROM AUSTRALIA

NEW
VULCAN
CENTRALIZED STORAGE
WATER HEATERS

Choose with confidence from a wide range of sizes and features.

FREE INSTALLATION!
within Metro Manila

Guaranteed after sales service from the leading Water Heater Company.
JETT WATER HEATERS
Since 1985

STOCKIST DISTRIBUTOR: JETT WATER HEATER COMPANY, INC.
ACE Hardware
AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT ALL ACE HARDWARE AND SM HARDWARE WORKSHOP
SM Hardware Workshop
ACE HARDWARE > SM FAIRVIEW: 415-6761/SM MEGA: 633-1471/SM CUBAO: 912-5622/FESTIVAL MALL: 850-3909
SM MANILA: 532-7842/ SM SUCAT: 829-2606/ SM BACOOR: (046)970-7825/ SM PAMPANGA: (045)961-6847
SM CEBU: (032) 231-7129/ SM ILO-ILO: (033) 320-7667
HARDWARE WORKSHOP > SM NORTH: 4550326, ANNEX: 9297169/SM STA. MESA: 716-0732/SM SOUTH: 806-7295

*Cut and present this ad when you buy your Vulcan at your nearest ACE HARDWARE or HARDWARE WORKSHOP to get your special gift.

With Panasonic Voice Mail Processing System
you don't miss a call.

The Panasonic Voice Mail Processing System answers all incoming calls even without an operator. Built with an answering machine that attends to all calls, it allows you to record, send and retrieve messages 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So, why hire a telephone operator when you can have the
Panasonic Voice Mail Processing System
Get one now!

Panasor
TVP50

AUTHORIZED DEALER AND SERVICE CENTER

KX-TVP50 Voice Processing System
• Live Call Screening • Caller ID Call Routing
• Two-way Recording • Custom Service

HEADSTART
G/F, Dela Merced Bldg. (Beside Delta Theatre)
Quezon Ave., Cor., West Ave., Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 371-2907 to 08, 371-2912, 371-2455 / 56 / 40 • Fax No.: 410-5062

India rules out new dialogue with Pakistan, de-escalation

NEW DELHI—India yesterday ruled out both a resumption of dialogue with Pakistan and any military de-escalation on the border with its nuclear rival, saying Islamabad had yet to take "effective" measures to curb terrorists operating in India.

"India is prepared to resume the dialogue process with Pakistan, provided Islamabad satisfies us that it has indeed taken effective steps to end the training, equipping and financing of the terrorists," President K.R. Narayanan said in a speech to both houses of the Indian parliament.

The speech, which outlined the government's policies on the opening day of the budget session, also focused on the need to accelerate economic reforms to realize annual growth of eight percent, and to double per capita income and halve poverty levels in the next decade.

India and Pakistan have massed an estimated 800,000 troops on their common border since military tensions escalated in the wake of a December attack on the Indian parliament, which New Delhi blamed on Pakistan-based militant groups.

Despite a landmark speech by Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf last month in which he banned five militant groups and instigated a crackdown that led to the arrest of around 2,000 alleged religious extremists, India has insisted that Pakistan has not done enough to warrant a de-escalation at the border.

"The necessary level of military strength and military preparedness will be maintained to deter any aggression," Narayanan said.

"The fight against terrorism has to be global and comprehensive. It should target not only the terrorists but also those who sponsor, finance, support or shelter them."

Referring to repeated Pakistani invitations for talks, Narayanan stressed that "terrorism and dialogue" cannot go together.

"Recent history is witness to the fact that, whereas India has always been ready for meaningful and fruitful talks with Pakistan, it is Pakistan that has ensured their failure with its acts of betrayal," he added.

The President also demanded that Islamabad hand over the people on an Indian list of 20 alleged criminals and terrorists that New Delhi says are sheltering in Pakistan.

"Positive action by Islamabad on these demands is the test of its sincerity to end its hostility against India and to pave the way for discussing all outstanding issues," he said.

New Delhi has long accused Pakistan of fomenting armed insurgencies in India, particularly the divided Muslim-majority region of Kashmir.

Pakistan denies the charge but extends open moral and diplomatic support to what it views as the Kashmiris' just struggle for self-determination.

Narayanan also congratulated India's defense scientists on the successful test last month of a new shorter-range version of its nuclear-capable Agni missile—designed specifically with Pakistan in mind.

"Coupled with other missiles which we have already tested, this will strengthen India's defense against any military adventures aimed at us," he said.

Turning to India's domestic economy, Narayanan said the 5.4-percent growth forecast for the fiscal year ending March 31 was "neither sufficient nor satisfactory."

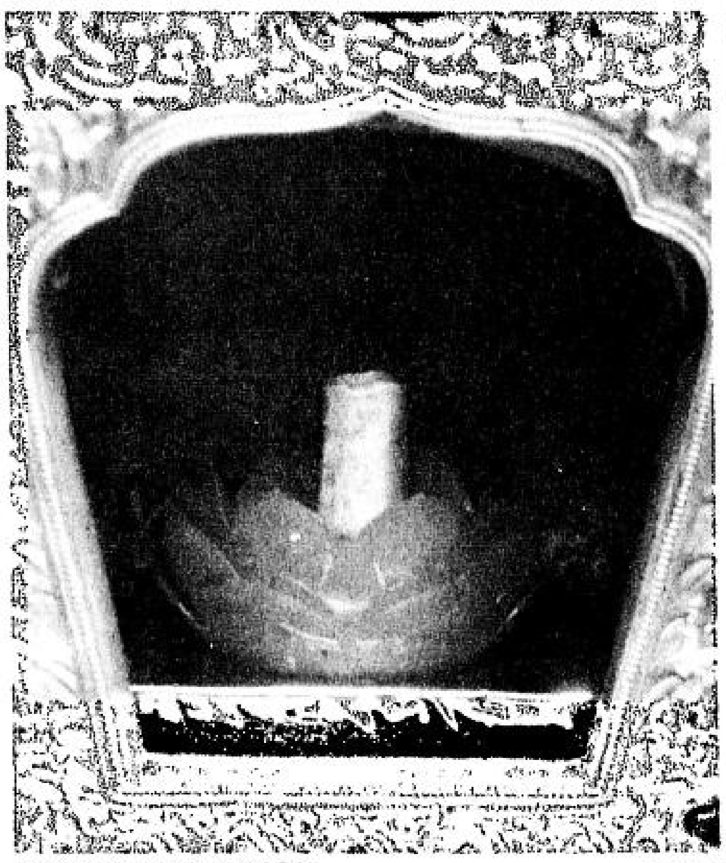
"We need to accelerate a host of reforms to enable our economy to reach a trajectory of growth of eight percent and above," Narayanan said.

"This alone can ensure success in our objective of doubling per capita income in the next 10 years and reducing the number of people living below the poverty line by half."

Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha is due to unveil his annual budget on Thursday, but his commitment to tough reforms has been challenged by the rout of the ruling BJP party in recent state polls.

The electoral drubbing that saw the BJP and its allies lose control of three states, including the all important state of Uttar Pradesh, caused some analysts to suggest that the BJP-led coalition government might put some of the necessary but more unpopular reforms on the backburner.

However, Narayanan's speech made it clear that the government would push ahead with its privatization program. *AFP*



HALLOWED RELIC REUTERS

A sacred finger relic of lord Buddha sits inside a gold pagoda in Taipei on Feb. 23. The 2,500-year-old Buddha's finger arrived on the island from the Famen Temple in Xian, central China, to be displayed for a month.

Mugabe ready to flee

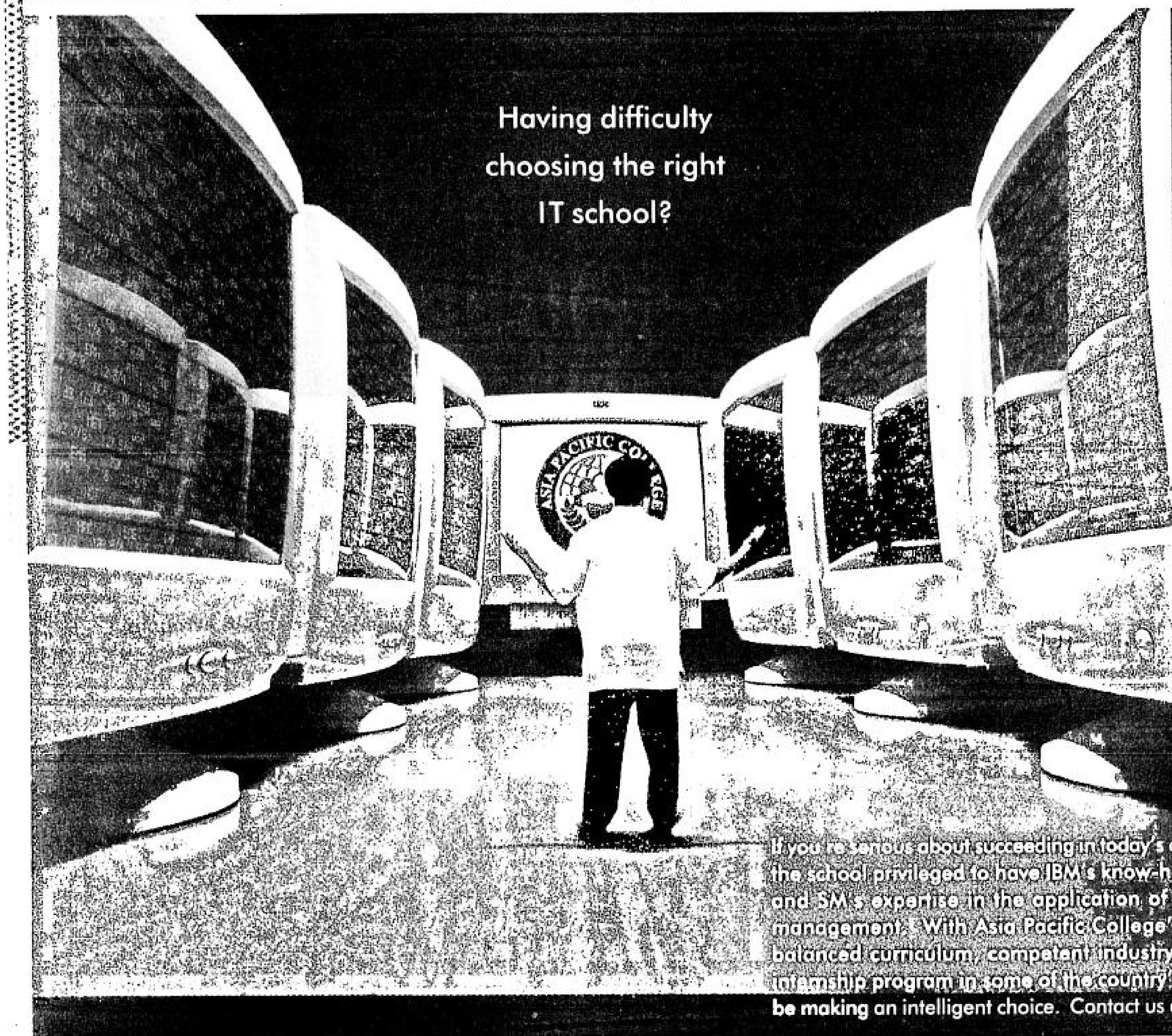
LONDON—Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe is preparing to go into exile after a private poll indicated he could lose hotly contested March presidential elections, Britain's The Times newspaper reported Monday.

Mugabe, 78, asked Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo to reach an agreement with Zimbabwe opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai under which Mugabe would be permitted to go into exile if defeated at the polls, the report said.

The Zimbabwe leader is battling to extend his 22-year grip on power in the southern African nation against Tsvangirai, his first significant challenger, in elections set for March 9 and 10.

Quoting an unnamed diplomatic source, The Times said Tsvangirai was summoned to Mugabe's home in Harare in January for a meeting with Obasanjo, and only accepted upon receiving assurances from Obasanjo about his safety.

The Nigerian president asked him: "If you win, what are you going to do about him?" pointing to a photo of Mugabe, who did not attend the meeting, which took place in the middle of the night. *AFP*


Having difficulty choosing the right IT school?

ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE 1991

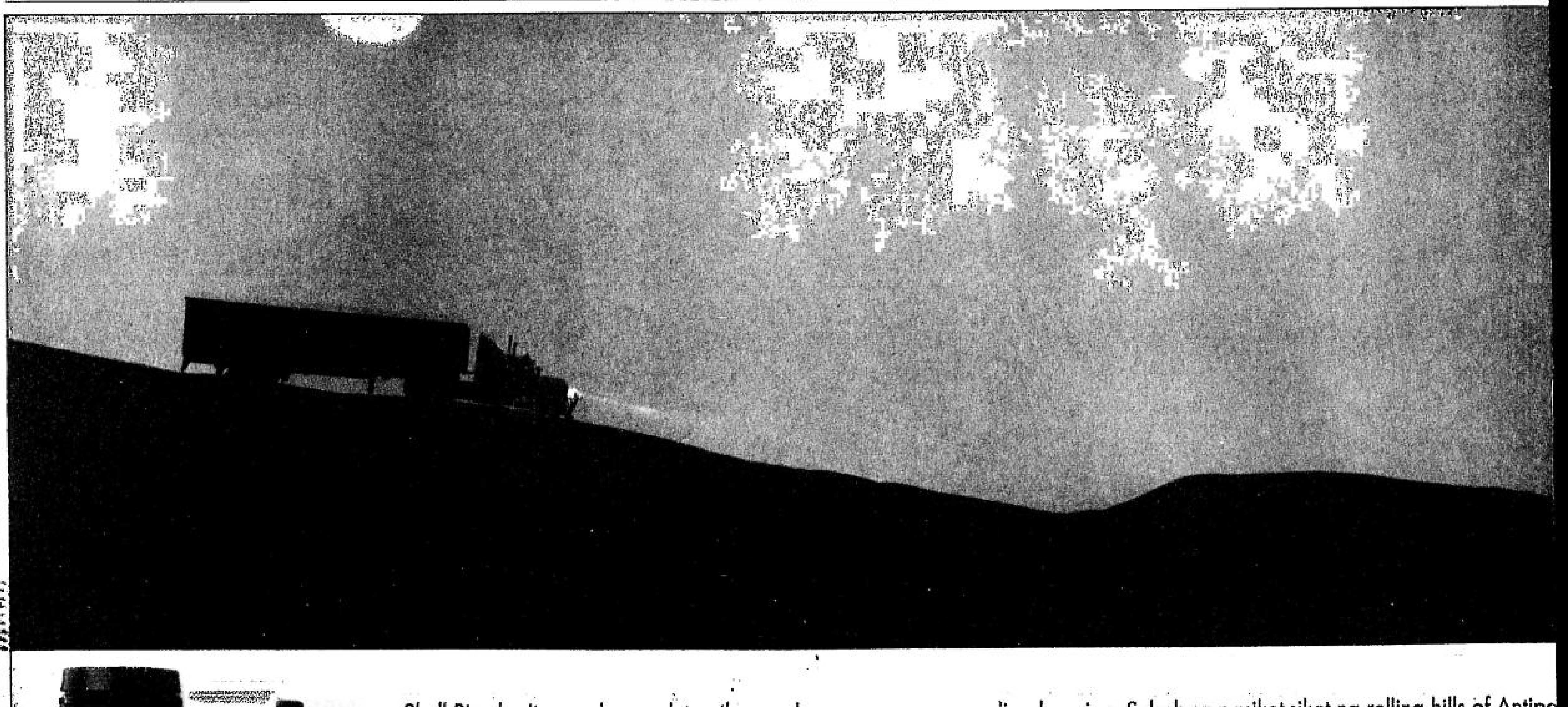
ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE
an educational partnership of SM (Shoemart) Foundation and IBM Phils.

Bridging Academe and Industry

If you're serious about succeeding in today's competitive IT industry, choose the school privileged to have IBM's know-how in Information Technology and SM's expertise in the application of IT in business and financial management. With Asia Pacific College's highly-specialized courses, balanced curriculum, competent industry practitioners, and intensive internship program in some of the country's successful companies, you'll be making an intelligent choice. Contact us and find out what sets us apart.

SM IBM

B.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY with specializations in: Systems and Software Engineering • Computer Network Engineering • Computer Electronics Engineering
B.S. IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING • B.S. IN COMMERCE (IT-based) with majors in: Computer Information Systems Management • Marketing and Advertising • e-Business and Web Technology
ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE #3 Humabon Place, Magallanes, Makati City 1232 Website: www.apc.edu.ph E-mail: apcquery@apc.edu.ph Direct Lines: (632) 852-9670/71 Trunklines: (632) 853-0201 to 05 / (632) 852-9232 loc. 201/202/203



Shell Rimula. Ito ang heavy duty oil na sadyang gawa para sa diesel engine. Subok sa pasikot-sikot ng rolling hills of Antipo
Kaya walang kakaba-kaba. Alam mong aabot ka at garantisado ang kita. Sige, subukan mo!

Shell Rimula. For longer oil life. Longer engine life.

Across the NATION

Assistant Editor **Tony Bergonia**

House absenteeism dooms youth poll postponement

SOLANO, Nueva Vizcaya—The proposal to postpone the barangay and youth elections this year may meet a sudden death as the House of Representatives has yet to act on the proposal of its two committees, with only two weeks before its scheduled recess.

"I believe time is running out for the two houses (of Congress) to be able to approve a bill that will postpone the elections," House Minority Leader Carlos Padilla said on Sunday.

Congress is scheduled to take a 21-day recess starting March 15 as part of its regular break for the observance of the Lenten Season. It will reconvene on April 7.

"If the two House committees (on suffrage and electoral reforms and on local governments) will not be able to submit any report by the first week of March, we can say that the proposal is already doomed," Padilla said.

Consensus

Two weeks ago, the joint committees reached a consensus to defer the two elections and to hold them simultaneously on Nov. 11 this year.

This is mainly to make way for the registration of about 8.5 million of the 11 million Sangguniang Kabataan members in the country, and to give enough time for the Commission on Elections to prepare for the exercise, Padilla explained.

Until today, however, the committees have yet to submit a formal report on their findings on the proposal for deliberation in a House plenary session, he said.

"I think the committee on suffrage, which is the lead committee in this proposal, is pre-occupied with other things," he said.

Committee members are reportedly in Japan for consultations with overseas Filipino workers on the bill on absentee voting.

Without the passage of a bill to defer the elections, Padilla said, the SK and barangay elections would have to push through as scheduled on May 6 and May 13, respectively.

Urgency

"The only chance of a bill to be passed is if there is pressure from Malacañang, including a certification (by President Macapagal-Arroyo) that the bill is urgent, and for Speaker (Jose) de Venecia to pursue the passage of this bill more actively," Padilla said.

"There may still be time (after the recess), but if we base it on the normal pace that the House of Representatives is working, it's impossible. Please take note that until now, absenteeism (among House members) is still a problem," he added.

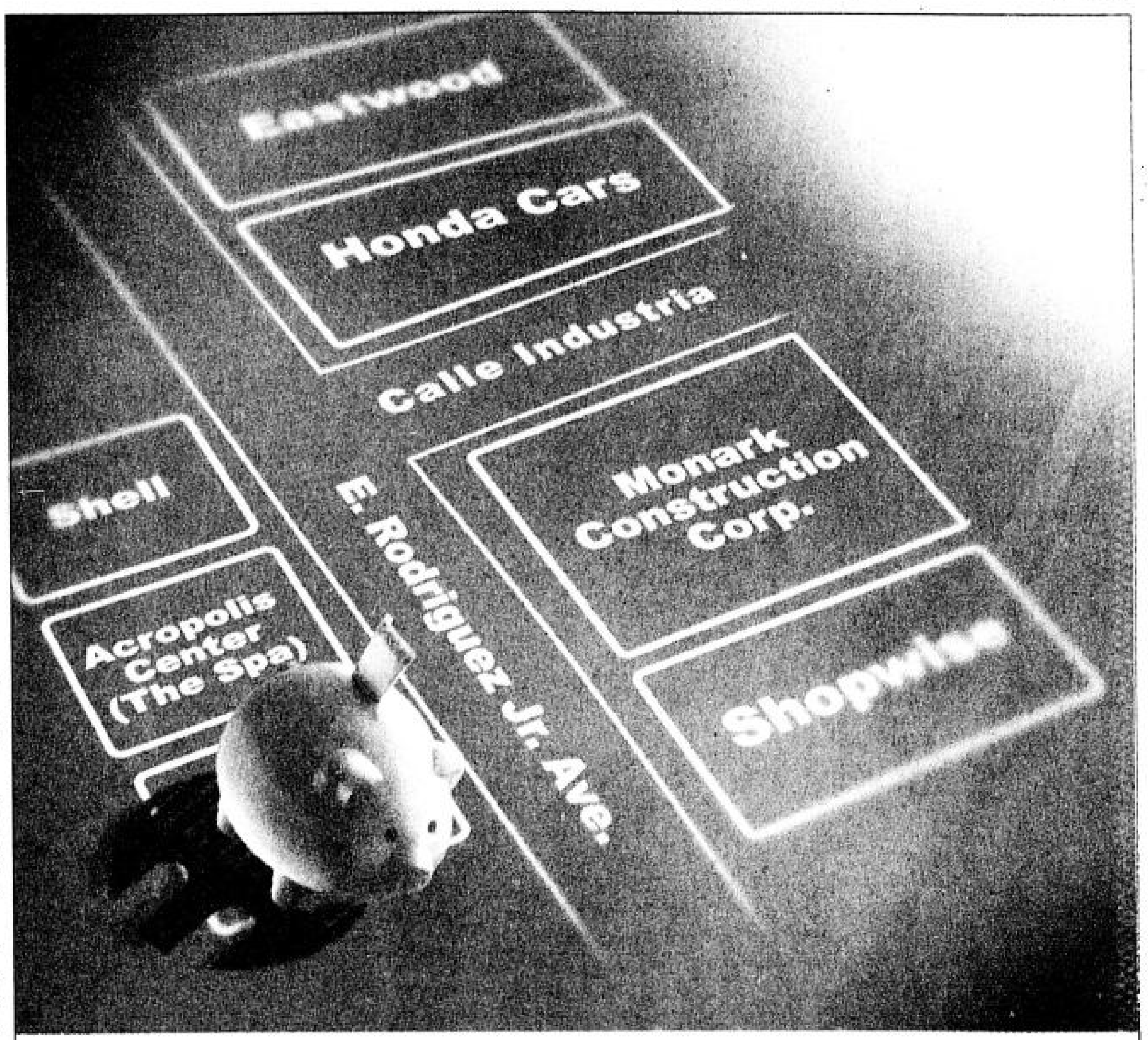
He expressed concern that even with the passage of a measure in the House, time constraints would eventually catch up with the bill as it goes through a similarly "rigorous" process in the Senate.

With the May elections likely to push through, the Comelec should be able to adopt measures to effectively hold two successive elections, which its officials considered "an administrative nightmare," Padilla said.

"We hope the Comelec is doing its homework on this, because with only a week apart to conduct the two elections, problems are likely to crop up," he added. *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Ferrania
Solaris
MADE IN ITALY
CISQ
Odorless PhotoChemicals & Color Paper
PENTAX
Cameras & Binoculars
cpac
EXCLUSIVE PHILIPPINE DISTRIBUTOR
SANLY CORPORATION

No: 237-239 P. Tuazon Blvd., Cubao QC 1109 PHIL
Tel. No: 912-6040 to 43 FAX No: 912-0839



Value Banking in Libis.

We are pleased to announce the opening of our newest branch in Acropolis, Libis.

Branch Manager : Cesar R. Esguerra Jr.

Branch Marketing Officer: Liberty A. Balgemino

Branch Operations Officer: Paul L. Lacuesta

G/F Suncrest Bldg., E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave, Libis Q.C.

687-51-43; 687-5140; 687-51-42

Fax-687-51-41

Bank of Commerce

Simple, No-Frills Value Banking

www.bankcom.com.ph

ROOF SHINGLES

You can't say you've got the best roof buy, till you check this out.

ROOFING MATERIAL	ORIGIN	WARRANTY	PRICE
Our asphalt shingles	**U.S.A.**	**20 years**	**P200/sqm**
Their metal tilespan roof	Phils.	10 years	@ P265/sqm
Their ribbed metal roof	Phils.	10 years	@ P160/sqm
Their concrete tile	Phils.	?	@ P250/sqm
Their clay tile	Indonesia	?	@ P600/sqm

Prices don't include delivery, installation and accessories.

Guaranteed lowest price in the Philippines or your money back!

With our new 2002 venture with CertainTeed, the largest shingles manufacturer in the U.S.A., you will benefit from our low prices due to CertainTeed's huge global volume production.

See how we drive your costs down to make U.S.A. shingles affordable.

Our 20-year warranty shingles of P200/sqm cost P620/bundle. Our algae-resistant shingles cost P258/sqm or P800/bundle, the lowest in the industry.

We offer supply and installation services or just plain supply, or plain installation, as you wish.

Join our free 1-hour installation training every Thursday, 3 p.m. Open to all. Call one day before for guaranteed seat.

Dealership application now open to qualified companies. Apply now!

Multi-Line *Simply Creative*

Quezon City: Calderon Bldg. 827 Edsa Phone: 929-9911

Makati: MC Home Depot, Mantrade, Edsa Phone: 894-0845

Cebu: 366 A. del Rosario, Mandaue City Phone: 346-5413

Davao: Go Chi Ping Bldg. 161 McArthur Highway, Matina Phone 299-2693

SA MATAGTAG AT PABABA... KAKASA KA BA?
MAG-SHELL RIMULA KA!

Best for: TRUCK BUS EXCAVATOR TRACTOR VAN AUV JEEPNEY

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Mindanao and Eastern Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	HI31° Lo 22°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	HI 31° Lo 22°
Tuguegarao	Mostly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 18°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 21°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 22°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	HI 25° Lo 14°
Legazpi	Mostly Cloudy	HI 30° Lo 24°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	HI 30° Lo 22°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 24°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy	HI 30° Lo 26°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	HI 31° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 23°
Gen. Santos	Mostly Cloudy	HI 35° Lo 23°
Zamboanga	Mostly Cloudy	HI 34° Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Mostly Clousy	HI 31° Lo 24°
Davao	Mostly Cloudy	HI 29° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Chona Galang, PDI Research/02/26/02

ROUNDUP

Clueless on smugglers

DAVAO CITY–Police remain clueless as to the identity of the owner of the explosives intercepted from a 24-foot cargo container van shipped by MV Ocean Hope of the Oceanic Shipping Lines. Police and customs agents seized the explosives worth P4 million at the Sasa Wharf here. An inventory of the container van's contents revealed 150 sacks of ammonium nitrate, 300 boxes of dynamite with each box containing 280 sticks, five boxes of detonators and six boxes of detonating cords and 200 boxes of safety fuse.

Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Women used to recruit

DAVAO CITY—The military here claimed that the New People's Army is employing new tactics in its recruitment of young members. Lt. Col. Eduardo del Rosario, chief of the Army's 73rd Infantry Battalion based in Malagos, Calinan district here, said the NPA rebels reportedly use their "charming and lovely" female members to entice recruits to join the group. This came after two men complained to Del Rosario that their sons joined the NPA after being recruited by four NPA women.

Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Pastor nabbed

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Lipa police arrested a pastor who was the primary suspect in the recent kidnapping of two men on Thursday. The suspect, Roberto J. Manrique, 43, married, a pastor of the Word for the World Church and a resident of Cabuyao, Laguna, abducted Albert R. Laurio, 20, single, and Delfin F. Tawatao, 26, married and both residents of San Pedro, Laguna, police said. Manrique kidnapped the two separately on Feb. 5 and Feb. 7 with the help of a certain Arman Fajardo of Barangay Parian in separate places in San Pedro, Laguna. The victims are still missing.

Romulo O. Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Mindoro to hike rice yield

CALAPAN CITY—Oriental Mindoro has been chosen as one of the 40 provinces in the Ginintuang Masaganang Ani (GMA) Rice Program of the Department of Agriculture. Under the GMA Rice Program, the 79 cavans of rice ordinarily harvested per hectare in the province will be increased to 90 cavans. Provincial agriculturist Rodolfo V. Valdez said under the program, farmers pay P1,200 per sack of hybrid rice while the government subsidizes the other P1,200.

Donna Virola, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Albay adopts GMA

LEGAZPI CITY—The Albay local government has adopted the Ginintuang Masaganang Ani (GMA) Hybrid Rice Program in the province. Provincial agriculturist Angeles Nieva said an average of 15-25 percent hike in yield is expected under the program, which involves using hybrid seeds. "The use of GMA hybrid rice seeds can raise yields up to 240 cavans per hectare per season or 12 tons per hectare per year," Nieva said. As of now, 35 farmers in the province have signified interest in using the hybrid rice seeds.

Roly Embile, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Sea anemones released

MASBATE CITY—The city government recently released back to the sea 15 boxes of live anemones (sea herbs) shortly after it seized them at the local airport. City fisheries coordinator Ofelia B. Villapaz and some personnel of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources immediately seized the boxes as soon as they arrived at the check-in counter of Asian Spirit Airlines. Police also arrested two couriers of the marine products, a certain Rodelio M. Wagwag of Barangay Manlingon, Mandaon, and his brother Porcino, a resident of Pagbilao, Quezon.

Tony S. Macasinag, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Army recovers mortar

LEGAZPI CITY—The Army's 42nd Infantry Battalion operating in Camarines Sur has recovered a 60mm MK2 mortar in a recent encounter with the New People's Army in Barangay Buyo, Goa, Camarines Sur. The mortar, which has a range of more than a kilometer and is used to attack military camps at a distance, was recovered from a rebel safehouse after a firefight. Also recovered from the scene were live ammunition, said Maj. Jose Broso, Armed Forces Civil Relations Group Southern Luzon head.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Town honors 2 heroes

DAET, Camarines Norte—The province honored two of its heroes early this month: Jose Maria Panganiban, who celebrated his 139th birthday on Feb. 1, and Gen. Vicente R. Lukban who marked his birthday on Feb. 11. Panganiban was one of the leaders of the propaganda movement in Spain. Lukban is one of the bravest Filipino generals and closest lieutenant of Gen. Emilio Aquinaldo, who was responsible for the defeat of the American colonial forces in Balangiga, Samar, on Sept. 28, 1901.

Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Negros landowners' scion behind bars for beating wife dead in front of child

CEBU CITY—A scion of a prominent family here has been placed behind bars for allegedly killing his wife in front of their 11-year-old daughter inside his parents' house in Guihulngan town, Negros Oriental.

Timothy Trinidad Rodriguez is now detained at the Guihulngan police station after his siblings surrendered him to the police, several hours after he allegedly beat up and killed his wife, Marilyn.

Rodriguez, in his late 30s, belongs to a prominent family in Cebu City whose father owns the Quirino-Rodriguez Building on Colon Street and on Osmeña Boulevard. He also owns a hacienda in Guihulngan.

Marilyn, also in her late 30s, was beaten by her husband several times about 5 p.m. on Feb. 22, according to the victim's uncle, Jose Go.

Go, a businessman and former regional manager of Vicor Music Corp., sought the help of Cebu-based radio station dyLA on Sunday night.

He expressed fears that his niece would not get justice for her murder because the suspect belongs to a prominent and influential family in Cebu.

Go said his niece's death could be compared to the death of Alona Bacolod-Ecleo who was also allegedly killed by her husband, Ruben Ecleo Jr., former mayor of San Jose, Surigao del Norte, and founder of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association Inc. Ecleo had denied the charges and his lawyer said the former mayor was being persecuted in media.

Go said Marilyn's daughter told him through telephone how her mother was killed. The Rodriguez couple had two children—a 13-year-old boy and a 10-year-old girl.

Marilyn, he said, was beaten up several times by Rodriguez inside their house in Guihulngan. When she fell, he added, Rodriguez allegedly stepped on her body.

Go said his sister, the victim's mother, told him that Marilyn suffered several contusions all over her body, including in the face and neck.

Marilyn was brought first to the Guihulngan hospital but the family decided to transfer her to a hospital in Dumaguete City. Marilyn, however, died before reaching the Dumaguete hospital.

It was still not clear why Rodriguez allegedly beat up his wife to death.

Insp. Ramil Vizcaya, chief of the Guihulngan Police, said the case was still being investigated. But, he said, he noticed that Rodriguez was drunk at that time that he was arrested.

Vizcaya promised that the police would not give special treatment to Rodriguez. Until yesterday, the case has yet to be filed against Rodriguez.

The case was compared to that involving Ecleo which is expected to also drag on.

Ecleo recently broke his silence on his wife's murder and insisted he was not involved in the killing because he loved his wife so much.

The body of Ecleo's wife was placed in a black plastic garbage bag and dumped on a Cebu City street. ***Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau***

People Power I rites give inmates chance to bolt jail

By Jhunnex Napallacan and Kathy I. Navarro
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—While the warden and more than half of the jail personnel were attending a local celebration of the anniversary of the ouster of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos yesterday, eight prisoners of the Bagong Buhay Rehabilitation Center (BBRC) made their own daring dash for freedom.

But their freedom was short-lived because six of the escapees were arrested by pursuing policemen and jail guards an hour later.

One of the recaptured inmates was shot in the shoulder. Darwin Tabonares was brought to the Cebu City Medical Center.

Two remained at large. They were Jessie Lopez and Riel Bautista, 37, and the alleged mastermind of the jailbreak.

Senior Supt. Diony Mamaril, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology assistant regional director, immediately ordered the relief of Chief Insp. Ernesto Abella, BBRC warden, pending an investigation. Chief Insp. Hernan Grande, BJMP-7 provincial administrator, replaced Abella.

Abella welcomed the investigation. He said the jailbreak was not his fault as he was merely following Mamaril's order that he and some BBRC personnel should attend the People Power I celebration dubbed as "Tagbo sa Katawhan (Gathering of People)" at the Fuente Osmeña Rotunda.

Aside from Abella, three jail guards were also placed under investigation. They were JO1 Lucito Menard Cabillan, the desk officer; JO1 Crisostomo Rocero, Gate 2 guard and JO1 Gerry Lamparero, main gate guard.

The inmates escaped around 6:50 a.m., about 30 minutes after Abella and 12 BBRC personnel went out to attend the celebration at Fuente Osmeña Rotunda.

After conducting the headcount, Cabillan and Rocero were about to close the main gate when Bautista and fellow inmate Mitchell Bernabe, 23, ganged up on them. The two inmates were armed with improvised knives and chisels.

Other prisoners told Cebu City officials that Bautista was also armed with an improvised hand grenade. But Abella did not confirm this.

While Cabillan and Rocero were taken hostage, Lamparero rushed to the administration officer to ask for help because he thought no one could escape from the main gate.

But Tabonares destroyed the main gate lock by using a hammer. Tabonares later told jail officials that he was forced to destroy the padlock because Bautista threatened him.

Eight inmates immediately made a dash for freedom. Aside from Bernabe, Lopez, Tabonares and Bautista, the other escapees were Dante Duarte, Constantino Batad, Rodrigo Sasing and Lester Trocio.

Except for Lopez and Bautista, their freedom was short-lived as the six inmates were arrested about an hour later by pursuing policemen and BJMP guards.

Taxi driver Romel Tanjay said he was cruising along the BBRC when he accidentally hit Tabonares. He immediately stopped to attend to Tabonares but to his shock, three prisoners boarded his taxi.

Tanjay said he got scared when knives were poked at his back and at his side. Tabonares was not able to get inside his taxicab but was holding on the door of the driver's seat while the taxicab was running.

Tabonares later fell from the taxicab at the Waterfront Hotel, just a few meters away from the BBRC, in Barangay Lahug. He was later shot and arrested by pursuing jail guards.

A member of the Centennial Force, Filomeno Bautro chased the taxicab on board the Hi-Ace van. He was able to trap the taxicab on the corner of San Jose de la Montaña and Archbishop Reyes streets.

But the escapees ran toward Sitio Cabantan, in Barangay Mabolo where they were later captured with the others.

Bernabe went to the house of his ex-girlfriend in Cabantan when the policemen cornered him.

He later denied that he was one of those who held hostage the two jailguards. He said he was only tempted to get out when he saw the main gate open.

Cops bent on getting kidnappers at all costs

PALEMBANG, Sultan Kudarat-–"We are willing to sacrifice the safety of the two hostage victims," a top police official in Central Mindanao warned the kidnappers.

Senior Supt. Bartolome Baluyot, Central Mindanao police chief, said he received a directive from his superiors to go all-out against the suspects involved in the Feb. 6 kidnapping of Korean national Jae Keon Yoon and Filipino Carlos Belonio.

"The only option for them is to surrender," said Baluyot.

He added that nobody could guarantee the safety of the two hostages especially if government troopers and the kidnappers clash.

Authorities have stepped up their hunt for the group of Tigre Jakiri, commander of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front's 20th Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces Brigade.

Jakiri, Commander Salem Gogo, a certain Datu Dido and six other unidentified men are facing kidnapping and serious illegal detention charges before a local court in Palembang.

The court issued arrest warrants against the suspects and no bail bond was recommended.

Col. Pedrito Magsino, chief of the 601st Brigade, said at least a battalion of soldiers has been scouring the jungle and terrains of Palembang to rescue the hostages. ***Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

'Crack' team sent to hunt co-op workers' abductors

LEGAZPI CITY—The military has sent a strike platoon "to crush" the New People's Army rebels who held captive for about 30 hours 11 workers of the First Catanduanes Electric Cooperative and later released them after the workers allegedly paid revolutionary taxes.

Maj. Jose Broso, Armed Forces Civil Relations Group Southern Luzon head, said Army Col. Pedro Tabangay, 22nd Infantry Battalion commander, has dispatched the crack unit under his command to conduct an airborne operation against the rebel lairs in the northern part of Catanduanes island.

Broso said military intelligence officers have identified two NPA camps in the area, one in Barangay Panuto, in Pandan town, the other in Caramoran.

He identified the leader of the NPA who abducted the Ficelco workers as Bartolome Mendoza (not Medina as earlier reported), alias Ka Bart and a certain Ka Greg, a resident of Barangay Mabini in Caramoran town and a newly recruited rebel.

Broso said Mendoza's group belongs to the Komite sa Larangang Gerilya-Komite sa Platon Pusa headed by Salvador Torsar alias Ka Rey and Ka Sayong.

Mendoza's group abducted the 11 Ficelco workers Friday noon and freed them late Saturday afternoon after the workers reportedly gave in to the rebels' demand for P50,000 in revolutionary taxes.

Broso said that although the Ficelco management has been paid revolutionary taxes, their intelligence officers confirmed the payment.

He added that Ficelco director Herbert Evangelista, with general manager Carlos Gianan III and a certain Edwin Molina, handed the money to the rebels and the hostages were freed after a few hours' lecture from the NPA.

Broso blamed the Ficelco management for not cooperating with the law enforcers.

He said that while the negotiation was going on, Evangelista even sent drinks and *pulutan* asked by the rebels on Saturday morning to celebrate the birthday of Florencio Tabuzo, Ficelco foreman and one of the hostages.

The military also blamed the apathy of local officials for the proliferation of the NPA in the area.

Broso said the abduction has threatened the multimillion-peso circumferential road project of Catanduanes and the medicine and medical equipment distribution project of the Australian government in the area. ***Job Belen and Tony S. Macasinag, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Graft court orders Santiago mayor suspended 6 months

SANTIAGO CITY—The Sandiganbayan has ordered the suspension of Mayor Jose Miranda for illegally reassuming his post in 1997 after he had served a six-month suspension for his alleged involvement in "jueteng" operations in the city.

The four-page resolution ordering the 90-day suspension of Miranda was issued on Feb. 4 but the mayor's aides said Miranda has yet to receive a copy of the order.

The INQUIRER on Friday obtained a copy of the resolution signed by Associate Justice Edilberto Sandoval, chair of the Sandiganbayan second division, and Associate Justices Godofredo Legaspi and Raoul Victorino.

The case stemmed from the complaint for usurpation of official functions filed by former Mayor Amelita Navarro against Miranda on Nov. 26, 1997.

Navarro, then vice mayor and who assumed the city's leadership when Miranda was suspended, said Miranda "proceeded to his office and started giving directives to the various heads of office and other employees."

"The unexpected acts of (Miranda and his companions) had caused serious disruptions in the day-to-day affairs of the city government," Navarro said.

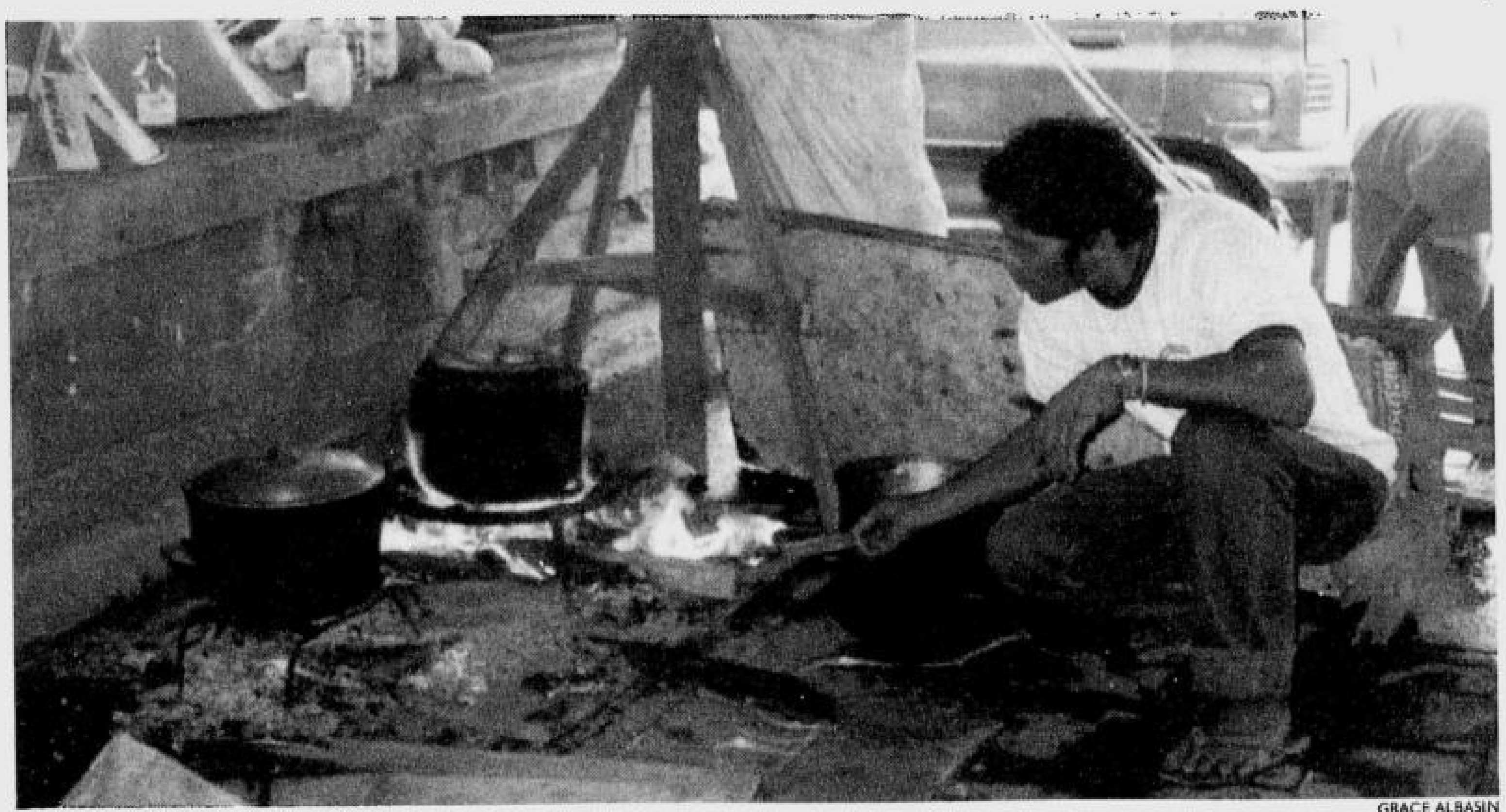
Miranda was suspended for six months in July 1997 for his alleged links to "jueteng" operations in the city.

But he reassumed his post in November after serving only four months of his suspension. The Department of the Interior and Local Government, however, said Miranda's assumption of office had no legal basis.

Wilfredo Baltar, city information officer and Miranda's spokesperson, said Miranda instructed them to observe a "status quo" in the city's leadership until they received an official order from the Sandiganbayan. ***Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

CONTROVERSIAL BACKHOE

This backhoe loader is a replacement for the supposed defective equipment that the Ilocos Sur provincial government bought in February 2000, according to ex-Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, who supplied the photo to the INQUIRER to dispel charges that his administration was involved in its allegéd "ghost" purchase. Singson claimed that the backhoe was returned to the supplier on Dec. 12, 2000 for repair and a replacement was delivered in November last year.



GRACE ALBASIN

DRIVEN OUT

Families driven out of their homes during a recent demolition in Cagayan de Oro City live on the streets, the fate of thousands of other families who try their luck in urban areas only to find there's no room for them there.

NFA says rice enough should El Niño strike

DAVAO CITY—The National Food Authority allayed fears of a rice shortage in Southern Mindanao if the projected long dry spell hits the country in the third quarter of the year.

Ofelia Sero, regional manager of NFA, said there was no cause for alarm as there is enough supply of rice.

She said the NFA maintains a buffer stock good for 30 days and it doubles the inventory to prepare for emergencies.

If the supply would not be enough, Sero said, the importation of rice would fill the gap.

Sero said the importation of rice is usually made in April, May and June, the months when there is a gap in rice production. She said this is the time when farmers are waiting for the next harvest.

The NFA has reportedly allowed the private sector to import 390,000 metric tons of rice this year. It no longer enjoys a monopoly on buying rice from abroad.

In a report, the new NFA guidelines on rice importation said farmers' groups and other private sector groups might now bring in imported rice at a volume determined by the government.

Reports quoting NFA Administrator Anthony R.A. Abad said the NFA has set a quota of 390,000 metric tons of imported rice for this year. This quota would be shared by all groups interested in importing rice.

Abad said 50 percent of the quota is exclusively for farmers' organizations while the other 50 percent is open to other groups.

The report said the NFA initially expected to deregulate rice importation only for farmers' groups. But with the new policy, rice millers and traders may bring in imported rice.

Sero said rice importation by the private sector was part of the policies laid out during the State of the Nation Address of the President.

But some farmers' groups reportedly claim this would result in an increase in the prices of rice in the domestic market. Traders could dictate prices, the report said.

The Kilusang Magbubukid sa Pilipinas said farmers' groups cannot afford to import rice because of high tariff and custom duties.

The NFA assured farmers' groups that the government, through the state-owned Land Bank of the Philippines, will help finance farmers' rice importation.

The NFA gave assurances that it would enforce safeguards for farmers' groups and also enforce provisions against rice smuggling. The NFA report said farmers' groups will no longer need accreditation from the NFA to import rice. Instead, a registration process is being prepared for farmers' groups and other organizations. ***Ayan C. Mellejor, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Doc's widow wants Antique prosecutors out of slay case

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—The widow of the surgeon who was shot dead in Antique is demanding that the entire Antique provincial prosecutor's office be inhibited from conducting the preliminary investigation of her husband's case.

In a three-page motion filed through her lawyer Paulino Salmon Jr., Suzette Palabrica-Moleño also asked regional state prosecutor Domingo Laurea Jr. to be the one to handle the investigation of the murder of her husband Dr. Carlito Moleño.

She said the Antique provincial prosecutor's office led by prosecutor Napoleon Abiera should be inhibited from the case because Abiera was mentioned in the affidavit of self-confessed gunman Hernan Labanon.

She also said Abiera was the uncle of Jocelyn Abiera-Polido, wife of Manuel Polido III, who was one of the suspects.

The entire provincial prosecutor's office should be inhibited to prevent Abiera from using his authority over his subordinates, Suzette said.

Abiera could not be reached for comment. But Laurea said Abiera told him that he is the cousin of Jocelyn's father.

Carlito, 42, was shot dead on Feb. 5 as he was about to leave the compound of the Angel Salazar Memorial District Hospital in the capital town of San Jose.

A murder complaint is now pending before Judge Monina Misajon of the Municipal Trial Court (MTC) of San Jose, Antique, against Labanon, Polido and Ricardo Agapito.

Labanon was arrested a day after the killing while an arrest warrant was issued against the two other suspects.

In his affidavit dated Feb. 8, Labanon said he was hired by Polido in January to kill Moleño for P500,000.

He claimed that Polido told him that Moleño was "doing everything" to have his wife "fired out" from the Pedro L. Gindap Hospital in Barbaza town where Jocelyn is the hospital chief.

Labanon also said that after Moleño's killing, he and Agapito met with Polido near the Pedro L. Gindap Hospital to confirm the killing.

During the meeting, Labanon said Polido told him that Abiera was "the person who might be suspected (of) masterminding the killing" of Moleño because the provincial prosecutor had a "long-standing grudge" against the slain physician.

Laurea said he could not act on the motion for inhibition because the case is still under preliminary investigation at the MTC in San Jose.

Alvarez says Lingayen Gulf 'showcase' of ecological failure

By Yolanda Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BINALONAN, Pangasinan—Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez described the Lingayen Gulf as a "showcase of our failure" to protect the country's coastal resources because of the ecological troubles that continue to plague it.

Alvarez, who accompanied President Macapagal-Arroyo on her visit here Saturday, cited the incessant use of "desperate methods" like blast fishing and poison to catch fish that has depleted by 50 percent the fish supply of the gulf in the last 30 years.

"There were only 100 fishermen in the Lingayen Gulf then, but now that number has multiplied 10 times. Since the grandchildren of the fishermen cannot find employment on land, they become fishermen and fight for the gulf's limited resources," Alvarez said.

The Lingayen Gulf, located in the northwestern coast of Luzon, is a U-shaped bay that directly opens to the South China Sea. It is bound to the west by Cape Bolinao and to the northeast by Poro Point in La Union.

Records of the Lingayen Gulf Coastal Area Management Commission showed that more than 1,200 municipal fishermen depend on the gulf for their daily subsistence and about 100 commercial fishing boats (CFBs) that ply in the gulf daily.

Alvarez said Fishery Administrative Order 17 restricts commercial fishing 15 kilometers from the shoreline because the operations "scrape the sea's bottom, in the process ruining the habitat and the chances for rehabilitation of the fishing grounds."

But there are 64 CFBs licensed to fish in the gulf, and other CFBs that have permits to fish in the Ilocos and other provinces also fish in the Lingayen Gulf at the pretext of berthing there.

Only 159 square kilometers of the gulf are reserved for commercial fishing that can accommodate 10 CFBs.

The municipal fishermen accused the commercial fishers of encroaching into the municipal waters and blamed them for destroying the gulf's resources by using fine-mesh nets that catch even small fish.

On the other hand, the commercial fishers blame municipal fishers for using dynamite sticks and cyanide to catch fish, which destroy corals and sea grasses.

Mangrove forests in the gulf are also under threat because these are cut and the area converted into fishponds and other uses.

The latest addition to the ecological headaches of the Lingayen Gulf is aquaculture, which brings economic bonanza to operators but is a bane to ecology.

What is worse is that the owners of the aquaculture structures, which dot the gulf and rivers that empty into it, are the decision-makers themselves, Alvarez said.

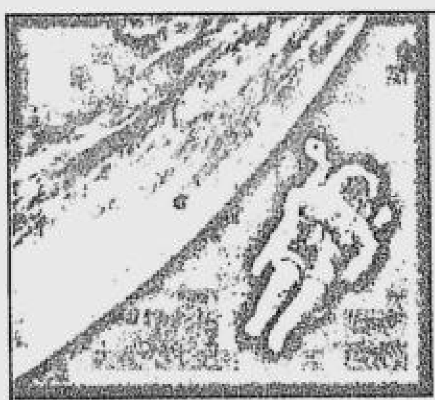
"So they are thinking of short-term benefits. The economic beneficiaries (of aquaculture) must not be the decision-makers," he said.

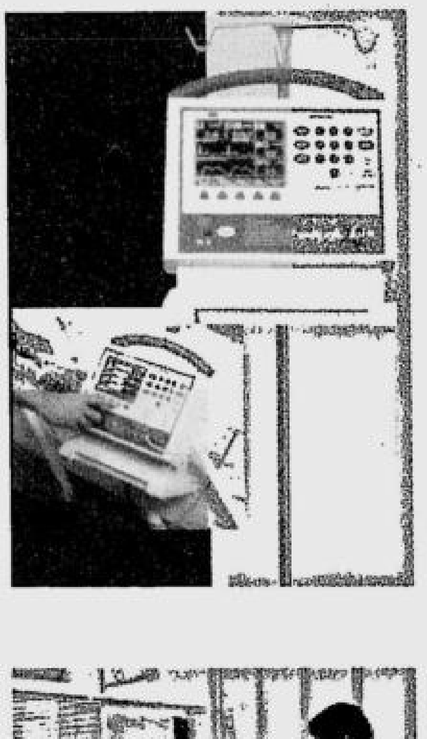
In Bolinao town, for example, local officials are among the owners of fish pens and cages hit by a massive fish kill on Feb. 1 and 3.

Alvarez said there was a need to study if an environmental compliance certificate must be required for aquaculture operations, which were found out to be "environmentally destructive."

"We have to study that (but) it would mean a revision of the Local Government Code. We may be encroaching on the authority of the local governments," he said.

Fond Memories To Last!
Only P700
We'll transfer them from Beta, VHS, Video 8, Mini-DV & 8mm reels
To VIDEO CD
For special occasions like weddings, baptisms and birthdays.
Free Pick-Up And Delivery Within Metro Manila
☎ 892-9073 to 75 (Makati)
366-2177 (Quezon City)
330-5942 (Manila)
(046) 502-0172 (Cavite)
IDEAL WORKS





"We've just brought to UST Hospital space-age technology to care for your heart."

The University of Santo Tomas Hospital (USTH) is the very first hospital in the country to utilize the Impedance Cardiography (ICG) technology through the *BioZ non-invasive hemodynamics monitor*, a new approach in assessing the heart's mechanical function, the same technology used by NASA to monitor astronauts in space.

With the capability to collect a patient's hemodynamic data (cardiac output, stroke volume, systemic vascular resistance) without the use of a catheter, the BioZ monitor senses, records and clearly displays beat by beat changes in a patient's hemodynamics status in the safest manner possible.

UST Hospital's Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and Coronary Care Unit (CCU) doctors are now guided by the BioZ monitor in improving heart efficiency in aid of a patient's faster recovery.

The BioZ non-invasive hemodynamics monitor is another addition to UST Hospital's array of extensive medical services.

For inquiries about what the BioZ non-invasive hemodynamics monitor can do for you or your loved ones or to know more about the services that UST Hospital can offer, please call (02) 731-6394/731-0314/781-3901 local 2251, telefax (02) 749-9787 or send an e-mail thru marketing@usthospital.com.

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS HOSPITAL
España St., Manila 1008

Cardinal says letting Erap leave 'stupid'

From page A1

the parallel resolutions in the House of Representatives and Senate urging the Sandiganbayan to allow Estrada to leave for the United States for the treatment of his arthritic knees. A total of 136 members of the House signed House Resolution 437 while 19 senators signed the counterpart resolution.

Vindictive

The Partido ng Masang Pilipino, Estrada's political party, denounced Sin's homily as "divisive, vindictive."

It said Sin's message was an "arrogant display of elitism," which the majority of Filipino Catholics would rather ignore.

PMP spokesperson Jesus Crispin Remulla said: "If the Catholic Church under Cardinal Sin thinks that President Estrada is already guilty and therefore deserves mercy, we might as well accuse and convict everybody based on the opinion of Cardinal Sin."

Estrada is not seeking forgiveness as he has yet to be convicted by the Sandiganbayan of any wrongdoing, according to Remulla.

The PMP spokesperson said Sin's remarks "betrays the divisive and vindictive policy of the Catholic Church as regard the case of Estrada."

The Cardinal's stand also ran counter to the Christian teachings on love, compassion and forgiveness, the PMP said.

Vigilance

In his homily, Sin asked the people to keep in mind the lessons of the two Edsas—justice and vigilance. (The second Edsa refers to People Power II that ousted Estrada last year.)

"The first challenge of the two Edsas is justice," he said as he lamented that victims of the Marcos dictatorship were "still seeking justice" and were "still waiting for the dawn of a new day where justice will flourish in our land."

Sin noted that there was yet no justice for slain Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. and "the countless victims of human rights abuses in the years of dictatorship."

"If we cannot give justice to those innocent victims of decades ago, shall we allow the nation who almost bled to death because she was plundered by her own leaders to suffer the same fate?" Sin asked.

He said vigilance was "but a small price that we have to pay if we are to preserve the lessons of the two Edsas."

"Today, we come to remember. We remember that Edsa beacons us to seek justice. Edsa beacons us to be vigilant. Edsa invites us to pray," he said. "Let us seek justice, stay vigilant and pray not only in times of crisis."

The secret of "people power" is people living its spirit "personally and individually," Sin said.

Among those who attended the Mass were President Macapagal-Arroyo, former Presidents Corazon Aquino and Fidel V. Ramos, members of the Cabinet, military officials, representatives of nongovernment organizations, and priest and nuns.

Two House resolutions

This week, the House of Representatives is expected to tackle the two resolutions on the Estrada's request to leave for the United States.

Maguindanao Rep. Didagen Dilangalen said he expected the House to overwhelmingly adopt HR 437 before the month is over.

Dilangalen is the principal author of the resolution, which appeals to the Sandiganbayan to allow Estrada to seek medical treatment abroad for "humanitarian reasons."

Approval of the resolution is expected to be a breeze, since its signatories include all House officials except Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr., who had said that he was inclined to support it but that he would first call a caucus of the majority.

Bayan Muna Partylist Rep. Satur Ocampo is not ready to give up.

Ocampo and 12 others filed a counter-resolution, HR 439, which appeals to the anti-graft court not to allow Estrada to leave for medical or any other reason abroad "in the interest of justice."

Point of principle

The 13 signatories to the contra-resolution are Representatives Oscar Moreno, Oscar Rodriguez, Antonio Cuenco, Arthur Defensor, Exequiel Javier, Krisel Lagman Luistro, Nerissa Soon-Ruiz and Nenet San Juan, all of Lakas; Ocampo and fellow Bayan Muna Representatives Liza Maza and Crispin Beltran; Ernie Clarete of Reporma and Roy Pilando of the LDP.

Ocampo said there would have been more signatories if they had more time.

"But we are not in a contest with Congressman Dilangalen as to who has more signatories. We just want to make a point of principle. That public officials, no matter who they are . . . must be made accountable for the transgressions they commit," Ocampo said.

He disclosed that some of those who signed the Dilangalen resolution wanted to withdraw their signatures.

But he admitted that those who had a change of heart were now in a fix on how to withdraw their support without losing face.

Ocampo said some of the signatories to the Dilangalen resolution admitted that they signed it because there were so many signatories already, including top officials of the administration party Lakas-NUCD.

He expressed optimism that members of the House would make the right decision come voting time. "Let's see what happens (today)," Ocampo said.

Under House rules, bills or resolutions are to be referred to the proper committees within three days.

Deputy Speaker Raul Gonzales said the Dilangalen resolution could either be referred to the justice or the rules committee.

But Dilangalen said the resolution need not go through the regular committee hearings as this could be acted upon directly by the plenary.

Palawan Rep. Abraham Mitra, one of the authors of the pro-Estrada resolution, said he expected the Speaker to "exercise his leadership" by defending the measure. ***With a report from Juliet L. Javellana***

GMA: New People Power enemy is poverty

From page A1

uted her own pledge. "As a Filipino, I will listen more. I will be more patient in listening to our people. Signed, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo," she read her pledge before dropping it into the designated box.

"There is now a new call to our people, to our leaders who have kept aflame the spirit of People Power," she said. "It is not a call to summon again a remarkable courage to fight, just with prayers and flowers, a dictatorship and a corrupt regime. It is not a call for massing at Edsa and committing to stay there for days until an enemy of the people falls."

The new challenge is to "bear heavier responsibility (for) building our nation."

She challenged the rich and the middle class to once again demonstrate their patriotism, as they did in Edsa I and II.

"The new Edsa will require more of the rich and the middle class, for them to give their time, their energies and their resources. Even as they found numerous forms of toppling two regimes, they will find ways and means to help our poor," she said. She challenged businessmen to share more of their profits with their workers, but also asked unions to be realistic with their wage demands. She urged politicians to use their posts to serve the people.

"This new People Power, the real Edsa III, not the one that happened last May, but the one we'll do together . . . may not be as dramatic, it may not even be as glorious as Edsa I and Edsa II, and there will be no date, Feb. 25 or Jan. 20, when this real Edsa will be celebrated, because it's everyday of our lives." The new heroes, she said, "unlike the very clear icons like Cory, the Cardinal and ex-president FVR, the heroes of this Edsa III will be anonymous."

Ex-presidents Corazon Aquino and Fidel V. Ramos attended the official anniversary rites, which included a Mass celebrated by Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin. ***(See story on Page A1)***

BLESSINGS on President Macapagal from Cardinal Sin during the morning Mass at the Edsa Shrine also attended by former Presidents Cory Aquino and Fidel Ramos. EDWIN BACASMAS

In her speech, Ms Macapagal praised Aquino and Ramos several times for their bravery and heroism during the two People Power revolts.

Amid tight security, Macapagal, members of her Cabinet, Aquino and Ramos lit a freedom torch at the shrine

Sin paid tribute to the millions of Filipinos he had marshaled onto Edsa to stop advancing troops and tanks sent in by dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who was forced from power and died three years later in exile in Hawaii.

"The real heroes of Edsa are the ordinary people who made an extraordinary heroic stand for the nation and for the Lord. Edsa is people, Edsa is individual Filipinos making a stand for freedom and morality," Sin said in his homily.

"The Edsa spirit must be lived personally, individually. That is the secret of the two Edsas."

Administration affair

As expected, the anniversary rites turned out to be a generally pro-administration affair. The crowd was composed mostly of government officials who joined in the Edsa II uprising and urban poor residents carrying banners in support of the President.

Among them were Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez; Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman; and Interior and Local Government Secretary Joey Lina, who served as the program emcee.

Even Manila Rep. Mark Jimenez, a known ally of deposed President Joseph Estrada, sang "Bayan Ko" arm in arm with Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. at the close of the program.

Metro Manila police chief Edgardo Aglipay estimated the crowd at around 20,000. But one vendor said he was disappointed with the small size of the crown. Emilio Cruz, 34, said he had been at Edsa as early as 11 a.m. to sell miniature Philippine flags, along with his two neighbors from Gagalangin, Tondo. But at 5 p.m. he still had not sold all of his stock. The reason: The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office had provided ralliers with free flags. "Also, the crowd this year is really noticeably sparse, compared to the previous years. In fact, the attendance seems to be getting smaller and smaller every year," Cruz said.

The ralliers, who carried red balloons and banners thanking the President for the land titles she had distributed to the urban poor during her visits to their communities, were spread throughout the stretch of Edsa from Santolan Road to Ortigas Avenue.

"The rally is very peaceful. Almost all the people here came in support of the President," Aglipay said.

Enough

At the rites, Ramos echoed Aquino's prescription for doing away with more People Power uprisings ***(See related story).***

Ramos said "Edsa II is already enough" but only if the people support the right leaders as the country "strengthens its democratic institutions."

Ramos said the failed Edsa III uprising of Estrada supporters, which culminated in the May 1, 2001 mob attack on Malacañang, was not an expression of People Power but rather a "mere failed power grab."

"It can be compared to the July 1986 Manila Hotel rebellion," said the former general, referring to the abortive putsch of Marcos loyalists a few months after Edsa I.

Responding to a query, Ramos said there should be no more lingering doubts about his support for the Macapagal administration.

"It's sincere, full-hearted and continuing," Ramos said. "Because that's the duty of ex-presidents like me."

As part of the anniversary program, Macapagal witnessed the signing of a memorandum of agreement between the Edsa People Power Commission and the Armed Forces of the Philippines on the establishment of the Edsa Freedom Center in Camp Aguinaldo.

Inter-faith service

A highlight of the rites was the inter-faith service at 3 p.m. at the Edsa Shrine, which included delegations of Catholics, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and Jews.

"We're praying for peace and unity," said Prof. Taha Basman, secretary general of the Philippine Islamic Council.

The inter-faith prayer meeting was the first of its kind held at the shrine. Manila Auxiliary Bishop Socrates Villegas said the "Edsa shrine is for all, for Catholics, Moslems, Jews, for people who believe in peace."

"This is a gathering of different faiths. We want to promote peace," he said.

Basman said Filipino Muslims hoped that they will be "considered as 'allies,' not enemies; as partners, not burdens."

"We must show our submission to the will of God by empowering the greater majority of our people, by loving one another, and by sacrificing to live for the sake others," he said.

The Hindu delegation was led by Majarah Rajeesh Sharma, while the head of the Hung Shung temple in Manila, Kwan Shan Hao, represented the country's Buddhists.

"If needed, we will be supporting another Edsa II," Basman said.

Pro-US

At the US embassy, a different rally took both embassy staff and policemen by surprise. Chanting "USA! USA! USA!," more than 400 truncheon-wielding members of the pro-US group Discovery Crusade of the Philippines Inc. marched to the embassy to campaign for US statehood.

"We love America, mother of our democracy! We love her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for her heroic decision (to allow) America as our security partner," proclaimed one of the group banners.

A certain retired major Fred Bello, the group's "chief-of-staff," said they intended to set up camp outside the embassy to push for statehood for the Philippines.

"We will stay here and we will not leave. I think nobody will apply for (US) visas anymore, especially when we become part of America," Bello said. ***With reports from Philip C. Tubeza and AFP***

Msgr. Soc: Edsa Shrine . . .

From page A1

"we can pray for good politics here at the Edsa Shrine . . . the key word is pray."

"If you will come here to destroy this church, if you will come here to desecrate this church, I cannot accept it. I have to protect the sacredness of this holy ground," he said.

Desecrated shrine

Villegas admitted the decision to ban political rallies at the shrine was due to its desecration by participants of the so-called Edsa Tres.

"If you were not here during those Edsa days, April and May, I think people should not talk. We were here . . . we were being threatened, people were defecating and urinating in the Church. What do you call that? Is that respect for Church, is that respect for property?" he said.

"We were saying Mass and they would put the speakers toward the door of the Church, saying, singing boisterous, vulgar songs," he said. "If you were in my place, would you still allow that?"

In his homily at the regular noon Mass at the Edsa Shrine, Villegas stressed that the Edsa Shrine is a place to pray for peace.

He further observed that the spirit and promise of Edsa have been dissipated because "we have stayed too long in the streets."

'Array of hi-tech US gear amazing'

From page A1

Maxwell said.

S/Sgt. Keith Megginson, in charge of the communications and satellite facilities, said, "it's so easy to talk with our fellow soldiers in the field, using the heavy duty and high-technology equipment."

"I sit here for 24 hours, continuously communicating with our troops and with our commanders based in the general headquarters in Okinawa or Hawaii," Megginson said.

He said developments on the Balikatan training exercises, reportage and assessments were dispatched every hour using the facilities.

Some 660 US troops are engaged in the joint exercises to train Filipino soldiers against the Abu Sayyaf, a group of bandits holding captive an American couple and a Filipino nurse on Basilan Island.

The group has been linked to the al-Qaida terror network of Osama bin Laden, the alleged mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

Sgt. 1st Class Rudy Lindsey, a US Green Beret assigned with the 10th Infantry Battalion in Matarling, Lantawan town, demonstrated the use of a body armor, an M4 carbine and other gadgets that weigh around 40 to 60 pounds.

"It's quite heavy with all these gadgets, but this is also the typical gear used by the soldiers of the Light Reaction Company," Lindsey said.

20 years behind

Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, Southern Command chief, said the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) was technologically "20 years behind" its American counterparts.

"But we can have that technology 10 years from now," he said.

If the AFP were equipped with the same technology "we could have already eradicated the Abu Sayyaf," Cimatu said.

Golez said it was possible that the Philippine government could procure the equipment for the AFP.

"If we are exposed to it, we can see a justification that perhaps in a year or two we can have that kind of equipment," Golez said.

But not even the best equipment the American soldiers are using in the military exercises are accident-proof.

Last Friday, a Chinook helicopter exploded in mid-air and plunged into the sea off Negros Oriental on Friday after completing a night mission to drop off Green Berets in Basilan. The crash killed 10 US soldiers.

The bodies of three of the 10 people on board had been recovered, and US officials on Sunday gave up hope of finding the seven others alive.

The US military yesterday pulled out all but four of its servicemen from the search and recovery operations for the seven missing crewmen of the MH-47E Chinook helicopter.

Pullout

Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster, commander of Joint Task Force 510, ordered the pullout.

"We can't lose what we came here for. Our President and your President have made a decision to commit US assistance to train, advise and assist Philippine forces to eliminate terrorism in the Southern Philippines and to destroy the Abu Sayyaf.

That is something that is still very much in our mind and as soon as we complete the deliberate and unfortunate task at hand, we'll go straight back to that," Wurster said at an impromptu press conference at the Coast Guard Station in Dumaguete City.

Wurster was in Dumaguete to personally thank the people who were involved in the search operations since Friday.

"I cannot overstate how much we appreciate the assistance of Philippine leaders and we gracefully accept the condolences of the Filipino people," he said.

A group of former residents of Basilan province and Zamboanga, who have resettled in Dumaguete, presented Wurster a manifesto in support of the Balikatan exercises.

Pio Pastorfide, president of the Hermanidad de Basileños, Zamboangueños de Negros Oriental, said their families back in Basilan and Zamboanga had suffered enough in the hands of terrorists, particularly the Abu Sayyaf.

The group also gave bouquets of yellow flowers to Wurster as a token of sympathy for the loss of the US servicemen in the helicopter crash. ***With a report from Alex V. Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau***

GMA flying to Zambo today

By Carlito Pablo

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo will fly to Zamboanga City today, principally to attend the city fiesta. Palace officials could not say whether the President will also use the visit to meet with Filipino and American military commanders involved in the Balikatan exercises.

"If she (does), that will be a last-minute arrangement," presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said.

Zamboanga City is the base of the Armed Forces' Southern Command, hub of operations against the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan. Aside from some 160 American Green Berets deployed in Basilan to join frontline troops, American advisers are also deployed in the Southcom headquarters to train local troops.

An official Palace statement said that Ms Macapagal will be at the Mansion House, located inside the Southcom headquarters compound, tonight to administer the oath of office of board members of the Regional Executives Association of Western Mindanao.

The statement was silent on whether the President will meet Filipino and American commanders.

Ms Macapagal will depart Manila at about noon today, after the regular Cabinet meeting. Upon arrival in Zamboanga City, she will inspect the Ayuda Badjao Livelihood and Housing Project in Sitio Maasin, Barangay Caragasan and then proceed to the P130-million, 15,000-seat Zamboanga City Coliseum, for the Dia de la Ciuadad de Zamboanga program.

Cops stop militants

From page A1

the INQUIRER by phone around 4:30 p.m. yesterday.

Rosales said Akbayan had a right to attend the commemoration as a member of the Edsa People Power Commission.

She said she had phoned Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman to get the number of Director Edgardo Aglipay of the National Capital Region Police Office but that when she called him, "his phone just kept ringing."

Aglipay told reporters that police had to stop the militant groups because they were poised to disrupt the Edsa I rites.

"They were carrying abrasive streamers," he said, adding that only those groups that promised to observe the "solemnity" of the rites had been invited to attend.

And even then, he said, he had directed ground commanders to allow entry to groups that had no invitation cards but were willing to leave their megaphones and anti-administration streamers behind.

"Even if they had no invitation, if they were going to participate peacefully, we would allow them. The Edsa I celebration is for everyone," he said.

Rosales earlier showed an invitation card, but police still barred her group from joining the rites.

Aglipay, however, said Akbayan and the other militant groups were eventually allowed to proceed to the monument when they decided to drop their streamers.

Insult

About 100 members of Akbayan made do with a three-hour program at the corner of Edsa and Santolan Road.

Akbayan national president Joel Rocamora said his group had originally planned to hold a rally at the Edsa Shrine but was told that assemblies there were still banned. ***(Story on page A1)***

"So we asked if we could just gather at the People Power Monument, but we were still not allowed (to go there)," he said.

Rocamora said the ban on mass actions at the Edsa Shrine was "an insult to the spirit of Edsa."

In a statement, Akbayan said it celebrated the 16th anniversary of Edsa I with "a sense of dread."

"At no time since 1986 has it been more evident that the dreams behind that first historic uprising are severely threatened," it said. "The current administration not only undermines the victories of Edsa but (also) threatens to reverse them."

Aglipay justified the decision to bar the antis and allow the pros to proceed was meant to avert a clash.

"They have a history of confronting one another during national activities. So we had to forestall this," he said.

In a meeting with Aglipay last week, cause-oriented groups such as the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, Sanlakas, Gabriela, Council on Philippine Affairs and People's Movement Against Poverty said they would hold rallies in Manila instead.

Aglipay said that yesterday's anniversary ceremony was "generally peaceful" and that there were no reports of violence related to it.

Some 2,000 policemen were deployed for the Edsa I rites and another 2,000 were sent to secure vital installations in Manila.

Another 1,000 policemen were detailed at the Sandiganbayan and the Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City, where ex-President Joseph Estrada is being held while undergoing trial for plunder.

People power

Other militant groups held a rally at the US Embassy in Manila and assailed former Presidents Corazon Aquino and Fidel Ramos for saying that too much people power was bad for the country.

"There is no such thing as too much people power, as long as the interests of the oppressed masses are upheld," said Emmi de Jesus, deputy secretary general of the women's alliance Gabriela. "After benefiting from Edsa I that brought them to power, the least that Ramos and Aquino can do is recognize the importance of such actions in upholding democracy,"

De Jesus also said that "though people power is not the only way to achieve change, it drives home a significant message to tyrants and plunderers."

"They are afraid because they know that once the people realize their full potential and power, they will not only change the leaders, they can also change the whole system."

Gabriela members were among the 3,000 militants who trooped to the embassy to mark Edsa I and condemn Balikatan 02-1.

"Former Presidents Aquino and Ramos only distort the significance of people power by saying that too much of it is bad for democracy," said Apolinario Alvarez, secretary general of the youth group Anakbayan.

He added: "This statement is clearly an opportunistic and self-serving outlook by representatives of the elite who are already secure in political power and in society's hierarchy.

"They are threatened by the fact that the last people's uprising that ousted President Estrada was a product of an enduring, determined and organized mass movement. They shun the growing political mass movement that consciously advances fundamental changes in the Philippine social system."

The protesters arrived at the embassy premises around 4:30 p.m. after a program at the Philippine Christian University with activist leaders Nathanael Santiago, Behn Cervantes, Sr. Mary John Mananzan, OSB, and Charito Planas.

They represented such groups as Bayan, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP), Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), First Quarter Storm Movement, Selda, Concerned Artists of the Philippines and Out Now! Network.

They held a 45-minute program that ended with the burning of an American flag.

US intervention

The protesters said their opposition to Balikatan 02-1 was part of the anti-Marcos struggle.

"Remember, the Marcos regime was a US-backed, fascist dictatorship. Thus, fighting Marcos also meant fighting US intervention in our affairs—the very same issues we are now raising under the (Macapagal) regime," said Bayan secretary genetal Teodoro Casiño.

According to KMU spokesperson Sammy Malunes, the President has already shown signs of a potential dictator.

"Sixteen years after the overthrow of the Marcos dictatorship, the Filipino people are challenged to resist another militarist government and an up-and-coming tyranny," he said.

Malunes urged Ms Macapagal to consider the experience of former President Aquino.

He recalled that Aquino—who, like Ms Macapagal, was catapulted to the presidency by a people power uprising—faced strong opposition when she expressed support for the extension of the US military bases in the country.

"Being a people power President does not give Ms Macapagal immunity from public outrage," Malunes said. "If she betrays the people's interests, she will (face) more and more protests."

In Davao City, militants led by Bayan members assembled at a waiting shed on busy San Pedro Street to kick off a campaign for a million signatures against Balikatan 02-1.

Alvin Luque, secretary general of Bayan-Southern Mindanao, said the activity was timed to mark the shining moment when people power toppled the Marcos dictatorship.

As of 6 last night, around 100 signatures had been gathered.

'Nothing meaningful'

In Solano, Nueva Vizcaya, House Minority Leader Carlos Padilla said the country was in the same, or even worse, state as during the Marcos regime.

"Nothing really meaningful came about after 16 years because what we saw during the dark days of the Marcos dictatorship is the same as what we are seeing under this administration," Padilla said.

He said the only thing worth celebrating in Edsa I was the "strengthening of the Filipinos' democratic ideology."

In Baguio City, at least 30 activists held a noise barrage to protest the US military presence.

"We celebrate (the anniversary of) Edsa I with protests because nothing has really changed. We have an arrogant President who is desperately justifying the presence of US troops under the) Balikatan," said Geanette Galvez, deputy secretary general of Tongtongan Ti Umili.

In Lucena City, at least 1,000 students, farmers, and members of the clergy and nongovernment organizations marched on the major streets to mark Edsa I.

Several speakers took turns assailing the Macapagal administration and the provincial government, saying the system was still "rotten" even after Edsa I and II.

Other protest actions were held in Southern Tagalog (ST). Pastor Mel Abesamis, Bayan-ST secretary general, said about 1,000 attended a rally at the Fernando Air Base in Lipa City.

In Calamba City, some 700 Bayan-ST members and workers mostly belonging to the Solidarity of Cavite Workers held a mass action at the Calamba Crossing that culminated in the burning of the effigies of Ms Macapagal and US President George W. Bush.

In a statement, Bayan-ST denounced "GMA's puppetry to US imperialism," and said there was nothing to celebrate yesterday.

Visayas

In Cebu City, anti- and pro-government rallies were separately held.

Some 10,000 people converged at the Fuente Osmeña Rotunda about 6 a.m. for the "Tagbo sa Katawhan" initiated by the Office of the President in Central Visayas. Representatives of the government, police, military, clergy, students and NGOs attended the activity.

At 9 a.m., about 200 members of Bayan-Central Visayas held a protest action at the Mactan Benito Ebuen Air Base on Mactan Island.

Arman Perez of Bayan Muna-Cebu said children held a cultural presentation depicting the cry for social justice and social services. The group burned the American seal in front of Gate 2.

Members of the Muslim People's Assembly for Peace and Justice headed by Alim Fatani Abdul Malik joined the activity.

Around 2 p.m., an estimated 200 KMP and Bayan members marched from Fuente Osmeña to Colon Street.

In Negros Occidental, Bacolod Bishop Vicente Navarra urged the people to continue upholding truth and justice and to be stewards of peace.

Bishop Emeritus Antonio Y. Fortich said Edsa I should remind Filipinos to continue to defend the democracy they won back 16 years ago.

But Bayan-Negros Occidental said there was nothing to celebrate because the quality of life of the Filipinos had worsened.

"The problems of the Filipino people remain, while the (Macapagal) administration, no different from the rest, continues to ignore the people's demands," it said in a statement. ***With reports from Volt Contreras in Manila; Melvin Gascon and Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Delfin T. Mallari Jr. and Romulo O.Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; Jhunnex Napallacan and Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau; and Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

FULBRIGHT

Fulbright Student Awards Competition for 2003-2004

The Philippine-American Educational Foundation (PAEF) invites qualified Filipinos to apply for scholarship grants in the United States for degree (Master's and Ph.D.) and non-degree (doctoral enrichment and dissertation research). All fields are eligible except engineering, medicine and related fields, applied mathematics and applied sciences.

Full scholarship covers international travel, tuition fees, monthly maintenance allowance, books, and health and accident insurance.

Awards will be made through open competition based on individual merit. Grantees must return to the Philippines immediately upon completion of their program in the United States.

Applications will be accepted from faculty of Philippine universities and professionals from both the public and private sectors. PAEF encourages applications from college and university faculty who are enrolled in doctoral studies in the Philippines and plan to do one academic year of doctoral enrichment or dissertation research in the United States.

Application forms and additional information are available at the PAEF office, 10th Floor, Ayala Life/FGU Center – Makati, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City (or call 812-0919 or 812-0945). The forms can also be obtained from colleges and universities in the Philippines, and the regional offices of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

FULBRIGHT

Department of Agriculture

Fulbright-Philippine Agriculture Scholarships in the United States for 2003-2004

The Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Philippine American Educational Foundation (PAEF) invite qualified Filipinos to apply for scholarship grants in the United States for degree (Master's and Ph.D.) and non-degree (doctoral enrichment, dissertation research, and postgraduate research) studies in the fields of agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

Proposals for graduate degree and non-degree study and research will be accepted from eligible candidates working in government and the private sector.

All grants are fully funded. The scholarship covers international travel, tuition and fees, books, monthly maintenance allowance, and health and accident insurance.

Awards will be made through open competition based on individual merit. Grantees must return to the Philippines immediately upon completion of their program in the United States.

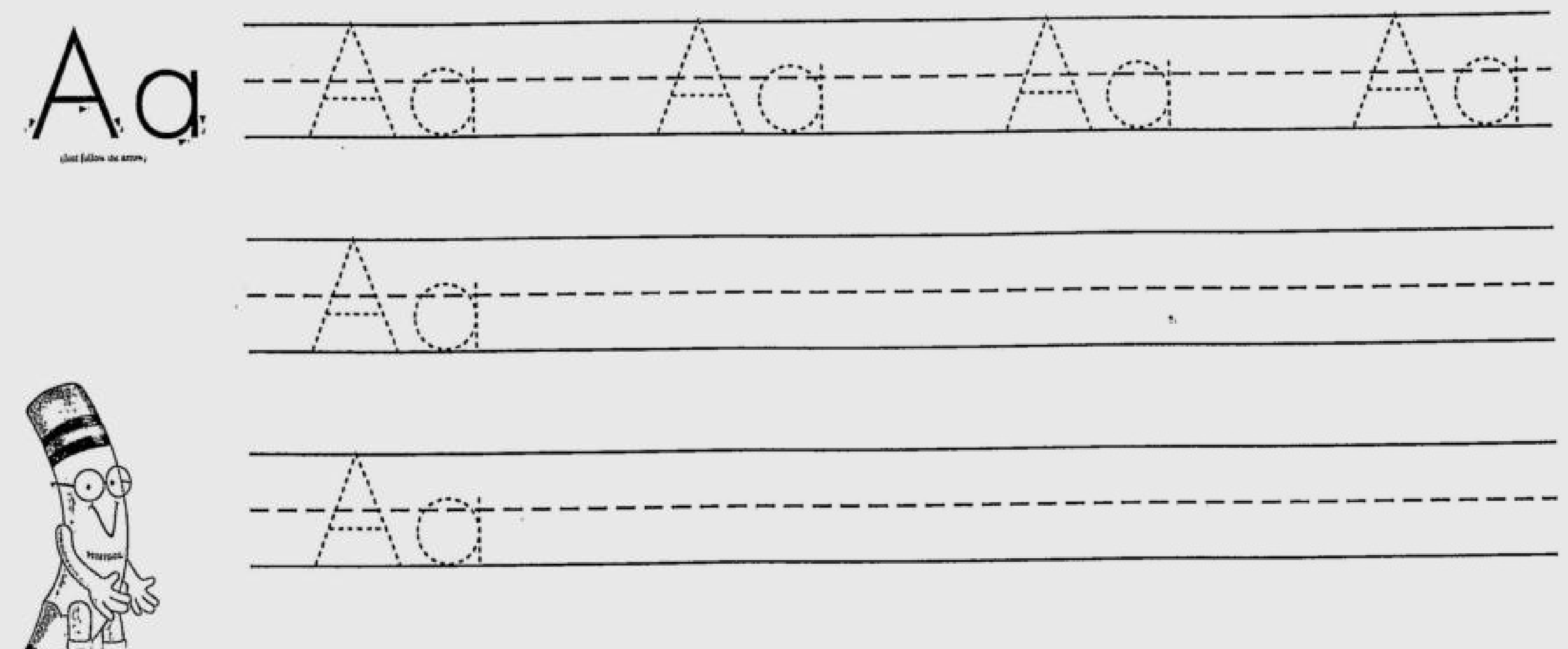
Application forms are available at the PAEF office; the national, regional and provincial offices of the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI); the national and regional offices of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED); state and private colleges and universities of agriculture, forestry and fisheries in the Philippines; and the office of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) mission in the Philippines.

Completed applications must be received at the PAEF office by May 31, 2002. Proposals will be reviewed by an independent binational selection committee; those who make the preliminary review will be invited for interviews in late July and early August this year. Successful applicants will be notified of their candidacy in October 2002. They will be placed in appropriate programs and institutions in the United States and will travel to the U.S. to take up their awards beginning September 2003.

Inquiries should be addressed to PAEF at the mailing address indicated, by telephone (812-0945), fax (812-0822) or e-mail (fulbright@paef.org.ph).

THIS WRITING DRILL GIVES YOUR KIDS AN "A".

Buy the Mongol for Kids pencil below and let them make their mark.



Kids get more from Mongol. The Best Training pencil.

MONGOL for kids

Choose from two pencil sizes, the regular and the new Mongol for Kids. The new Mongol for Kids is available in all National Bookstores, Expressions, Makro stores, ShoeMart outlets and other school & office supply stores.

AMSPEC
Amalgamated Specialties Corporation,
Km. 21 South Super Highway,
Muntinlupa City, Metro Manila

NBA ROUNDUP

Shaq, Kobe power Lakers past Knicks

LA Lakers' Kobe Bryant (right) looks for help as he is double-teamed by New York's Allan Houston and Latrell Sprewell. AP

NEW YORK—Shaquille O'Neal overpowered the Knicks for 30 points, Kobe Bryant added 27, and Robert Horry had 20 Sunday as the Los Angeles Lakers defeated New York 107-91.

Responding to coach Phil Jackson's threat of no days off for the rest of the season unless they earn one, the Lakers improved to 3-0 on their five-game road trip while sending the Knicks to their fifth straight loss.

O'Neal shot 12-for-22 from the field, Bryant was 10-of-18 and Horry was 8-for-13. Derek Fisher also had his accuracy working, adding 14 points on 6-for-9 shooting.

Latrell Sprewell had 22, and Allan Houston 21 for the Knicks, who fell behind by as many as many as 21 in the first half and never got closer than eight the rest of the way. New York dropped to 10-25 under coach Don Chaney.

Bucks 89, Pistons 82

In Milwaukee, Sam Cassell scored 27 points and Ray Allen added 21 as the Milwaukee Bucks beat Detroit, snapping the Pistons' franchise-record seven-game road winning streak.

Milwaukee moved into sole possession of first place in the Central Division at 32-22, one game ahead of the Pistons.

Jerry Stackhouse led the Pistons with 19 points on 8-for-27 shooting. Chucky Atkins added 17 points.

The Bucks had just one field goal over the final 5:20, scoring 10 of their last 12 points from the line.

Detroit, which had won eight of 10, shot 31-for-85 (36.5 percent) in the game.

Nets 95, Hornets 93

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Lucious Harris hit a go-ahead layup with 46 seconds to play and the New Jersey Nets rallied from a 23-point deficit in the second half to defeat the Charlotte Hornets.

The Nets held the Hornets to just 11 points in winning their sixth straight game and ending Charlotte's five-game winning streak on the road.

Baron Davis had 29 points to lead the Hornets, yet he missed a 3-point try with about three seconds left. Teammate Elden Campbell got the rebound, but instead of putting the ball right back up, he passed back out to Davis as the final horn went off.

Harris scored eight of his 17 points in the fourth quarter.

Jason Kidd had 21 points and 15 assists and Kenyon Martin shook off ankle injury early in the third period to add 13 for New Jersey, which is now 23-6 at home.

Cavaliers 111, Magic 96

In Cleveland, Ricky Davis scored 27 points in a rare start as Cleveland took advantage of an Orlando team playing without All-Star Tracy McGrady.

Wesley Person scored 26 points on 10-of-19 shooting, and Lamond Murray added 19 points and 13 rebounds for the Cavaliers. Andre Miller had 15 assists.

McGrady, the Magic's leading scorer with a 24.8 average, was scratched just before tipoff with a sore right foot.

The Magic got 24 points from reserve Troy Hudson, and Mike Miller added 23.

Suns 92, Spurs 83

In Phoenix, Stephon Marbury scored a season-high 36 points as Phoenix handed San Antonio its second road defeat in two nights.

The victory was the 1,500th in Suns history, making them the 12th NBA franchise to reach that total.

Shawn Marion added 17 points for the Suns, who won for only the second time in five games since Frank Johnson replaced Scott Skiles as coach last Sunday.

David Robinson led the Spurs in scoring for only the second time this season with 25 points. Tim Duncan had 21 points and 13 rebounds, his league-leading 44th double-double in 55 games.

Hawks 89, Nuggets 84

In Denver, Jason Terry scored 25 points as Atlanta handed Denver its fifth straight loss.

Tim Hardaway went to the foul line with 29 seconds remaining and a chance to tie it for Denver, but he made just one of two free throws.

Shareef Abdur-Rahim then hit a pair of foul shots to put the Hawks up 87-84. He finished with 23 points.

Hardaway, acquired from Dallas just before the trade deadline Thursday, struggled to find his shot all night and scored only six points.

Newly acquired Juwan Howard, also acquired from the Mavericks for Raef LaFrentz and Nick Van Exel, had 28. *AP*

Jordan may go on injured list

MIAMI—Michael Jordan limped to the bench midway through the fourth quarter and might stay there awhile.

Jordan sat out the final 6:27 of the Washington Wizards' 92-80 loss to Miami with a bruised right knee Sunday and said he might go on the injured list, which would force him to miss at least five games.

"This needs more than just two days' rest," he said. "I'm going to take the necessary time to get better. I may have to sit out a few games."

The Wizards blew a fourth-quarter lead to Miami for the second night in succession and lost their fifth straight game.

Jordan, who missed Wednesday's loss at Detroit because of his injury, had fluid drained from the knee before the game. He played 30 minutes before sitting down for good with Miami leading 78-74.

"The game was on the line and I was sitting on the bench. That should tell you something was wrong," Jordan said. "It got to the point in the fourth quarter where I couldn't move."

Coming off a 37-point performance Saturday, Jordan shot 4-for-13 and finished with nine points, six assists and five rebounds. *AP*

CEBU MEET

Spring cagers spank Guardo Stars, 90-78

CEBU CITY—Spring Cooking Oil cruised to its second straight win following an easy 90-78 victory over the Guardo-Pampanga Stars in the Cebu Basketball League President's Cup on Sunday at the Cebu Coliseum.

Power forward Carlo Espiritu paced the Spring in scoring but it was the flamboyant Ramil Ferna who delighted the crowd with spectacular plays that mattered most in the game.

Ferna, who finished the game with 18 markers, drew a big 'ooh" from the packed crowd when he hit a buzzer-beating basket from a little over the halfcourt to give Spring a 26-19 lead.

The Oil Makers built a 53-36 halftime spread but the Stars slowly crawled back and trimmed the deficit to only five, 69-64.

Ferna however was still in the mood for more colorful acts, dousing the Stars' rally with a rare three-point play and an eye-popping back-slam that brought the house down and Spring beyond reach.

Spring's offense was almost impeccable that it did not need import Bobby Parks to work hard even as he contributed 16 points.

Meanwhile, sister teams M. Lhuillier and ML Kuarta Padala bounced back from opening day losses with similar hard-earned victories in the other matches.

The Lhuillier Jewelers, who dropped a close contest, 84-85, to Spring on Saturday, survived all of the RP Youth's offensive thrust to post a 102-91 win. ML Kuarta scored a come-from-behind 77-73 triumph over Osaka Iridology for its first win in two games.

The Nationals gave the Jewelers a tough fight with near-flawless outside game although experience prevailed in the end for M. Lhuillier. Sunday Salvacion hit nine triples to again pace the RP team's losing cause with 37 points while Roland Lanete added five triples to finish with 22 points.

9-player trade

NBA NOTES

Henry Liao

TEAMS have been known to pull the trigger on deals during the last day of the NBA trading period, hoping to shore up a few weak spots here and there with eleventh-hour acquisitions.

However, only a pair of trades involving nine players was completed on trade-deadline day this year. The intricate salary-cap rules and the dollar-for-dollar luxury tax that further burdens teams with player payrolls that far exceed the cap make it either impossible or unwise to make deals that otherwise might make sense.

In order for trades to be approved by the NBA, the salaries of traded players must match up within 15 percent plus $100,000.

The Denver Nuggets sent unhappy guard Nick Van Exel, center Raef LaFrentz, reserve guard Avery Johnson and swingman Tariq Abdul-Wahad to the Dallas Mavericks in exchange for the high-priced but underachieving forward Juwan Howard, aging guard Tim Hardaway, seldom-used second-year forward Donnell Harvey, a 2002 first-round draft choice and cash.

It was the second trade in a three-day span that involved teams from the same division. Both Dallas and Denver reside in the Midwest Division.

Like the seven-player deal between Central Division members Indiana and Chicago that saw Jalen Rose and Travis Best going to the lowly Bulls, this one also was struck between teams headed for opposite directions.

In the only other transaction on trade-deadline day, the golden State Warriors jettisoned disgruntled center Marc Jackson to the Minnesota Timberwolves for center Dean Garrett and a 2007 second-round draft pick. The deal was agreed upon just 10 minutes before the deadline.

It needed the approval of the 6-10 Jackson, an NBA All-Rookie First Team selection last season. He had trade veto powers for one calendar year because the Warriors matched the six-year, $24-million offer sheet tendered to him by the Houston Rockets last October as a restricted free agent. Under salary-cap rules, the Warriors also could not trade him to the Rockets for at least one year.

Ironically, Minnesota was not among the 10 teams on Jackson's trade wish list (Utah, New Jersey, Milwaukee, Seattle, Memphis, Orlando, Indiana, New York, Philadelphia and Phoenix). A proposed deal with the Suns fell through last month and Warriors coach Brian Winters had benched Jackson in the last 16 games leading to his trade following his strong criticism of the Warriors organization.

The Nuggets traded away their two most marketable players—Van Exel, the club's leader in scoring and assists, and LaFrentz, the No. 2 scorer and No. 1 rebounder and shot-blocker. LaFrentz is eligible for restricted free agency this summer. Johnson, who had backed up Van Exel at the point, was a starter on the San Antonio Spurs' 1999 NBA title unit.

Howard also was involved in last year's trade-deadline day, having being acquired by the Mavericks from the Washington Wizards as part of an eight-player swap. His seven-year, $105-million contract expires after the 2002-03 season.

Star-studded cast sees action in LGBA derby

A STAR-STUDDED cast of derby champions are entered in today's Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association 1st Conference 6-Cock Derby at the Mandaluyong Coliseum. More than 50 fights are on tap.

Among the favorites are the entries of Commissioner Francis Trillana, Albert Yam (Money Tree), Mayor Nene Aguilar (Clean and Green), Sonny Lagon (Blue Blade), Raffy Campos and Edwin Aranez (Red Farm), Romy Tan of Pangasinan (Black Stallion), Joseph and Peter Chua (Jopet), Jun Siochi (MSJ), Mauro Prieto (Anito MB), Cong. Lawrence Wacnang (Crowsland), Tony Galang and William Go (Gold Cup), former Congressman Amado Bagatsing (Purple Haze).

Also seeing action are Vice Gov. Mario Espinosa (Ariba Masbate), Raymond Velayo and Sandy Javier (RMR Arnis Master), Comm. Jun Sevilla (JRS Spectrum), Peping Cojuangco (CAT Stinger), Biboy Enriquez (Firebird MB) and 5th Ucap champions Alex Tang and Nelson Co (Guts and Glory).

The championship round will be held on Thursday, Feb. 26, according to LGBA president Boy Diaz.

"The huge success of the LGBA Stag Derby Series last year was a clear indication that Luzon breeders can be at par with their more established counterparts from the South," Diaz said.

Sponsors of the derby are Lakpue Drug Inc., Univet, Premium Agrovet and Excellence Gamefowl Supply. Interested parties may contact 531-4003, 531-4110 and 535-2341.

'Sagupaan' 5-cock tilt attracts 40 breeders

A TOTAL of 40 big-time cockers and breeders from Central Luzon, Cebu, Bacolod and Metro Manila will clash in the awaited Sagupaan Bigtime 5-Cock Invitational Derby on March 15 at Pampanga Coliseum, San Fernando City.

At stake in this one-day event hosted by *sabong* idol Patrick Antonio and sponsored by Sagupaan Hammer Dewormer and Sagupaan B-50 Forten is a guaranteed prize of P.7 million.

Pampanga and Central Luzon's bets include Eric Lu, Danny Pineda, engineer Ramos, Mayor Punzalan, Jun Jingco, Jet Fernando, Dan Garcia, Val Lagman, JV Magsaysay, Dennis Roldan, Edgar Lacsamana, George dela Merced, Alexis Villaroman, Nestor Alcala, Mayor Mon Pagdanganan, Peping Taba, Jimmy Mariquit, Dong Pineda, Jun Yap, Melchor Caluag and Berot Balatbat.

From Metro Manila are Raymond Velayo, Pol Estrellado, Benjie Lim, Tony Lasala, Butch Macasaet, Bobby Wong, Vic Yu, Mario Espinosa, Rudy Salud, Lito Orillaza, Ramon Mancenares, Eric dela Rosa, Butchoy Olano, Louie Cua, Gerry Ramos, Blandy Tolentino and Vice Mayor Nestor Mercado. From Cebu is Wakee Salud while from Bacolod are the famous Ampil brothers.

Pagcor duty-bound to help athletes

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

IT is an established fact that many sporting legends find themselves in a sorry situation upon their retirement. The best example is boxer Anthony Villanueva, who won the first Olympic silver medal for the Philippines in the 1964 Tokyo Games.

When he suffered a massive stroke last year, Villanueva had to beg for financial help because he was penniless. Because he was hard up, he even offered to sell his Olympic medal since the monthly pension of P7,000 he was receiving then from the Philippine Sports Commission was not enough.

That is why, I have been taking the cudgels for a great athlete like Anthony Villanueva and the others similarly situated, believing that what they did for the country in the past should be amply rewarded now. The long wait, hopefully, could be over by next month. "We are just waiting for Pagcor (Philippine Gaming and Amusement Corp.) to give us the go-signal," said PSC chair Eric Buhain. "We are turning over to Pagcor the documents of the recipients containing all possible proofs of their feats, including newspaper clippings." Pagcor has been tasked to provide the funding for Republic Act 9064, also called the "Sports Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001" which President Macapagal-Arroyo signed into law last April 5, 2001. Some 340 sports heroes will share no less than P100 million in cash rewards, with the recipients getting an initial lump sum of 35 percent of their total incentives. They will be receiving the remaining 65 percent monthly.

Pagcor, now chaired by Ephraim Genuino, should release immediately the funds needed to lift the spirits of these godforsaken athletes, many of whom were raised in bitter poverty. In these troubled times, the immediate release of the cash rewards would surely soothe the wounded feeling of these impoverished and virtually forgotten athletes. At present, they have nothing to do but wait and worry.

"The government should give something in return to our athletes," former Pangasinan Rep. Ranjit Shahani once said. "They have consistently shown their worth in international competitions despite having poor training facilities," added Shahani, then chair of the House committee on youth and sports.

"With its approval, the practice of giving cash incentives to outstanding athletes will already be institutionalized as the government will allot funds for the medal winners so much so that the sports sector need not look for sponsors every time international meets such as the Olympics and Asian Games are held," said Shahani, who co-authored the landmark bill with former Rizal Rep. Gilberto Duavit in 1998. Earlier, a similar bill was filed by Speaker Jose de Venecia and supported by Manila Rep. Jaime Lopez in 1996 shortly after boxer Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco won the silver medal in the Atlanta Centennial Games.

With the passage of time, the government should be ready to implement by now the sports incentives law. After all, even Pagcor, the major source of funding, has no objections to granting the cash rewards to deserving medal winners, their coaches and trainers. We've been waiting all these years for something like it. And now it's here. So what are we waiting for?

* * *

For inquiries, call telefax (044) 933-1214.

Escude makes it 2 in a row

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands— France's Nicolas Escude walked off with his second consecutive World Indoor Tournament title on Sunday but the talking point during the week was 'balls'.

Win or lose, player after player voiced their frustrations with the type balls being used at the 2002 tournament.

"If you spoke to the players, this specific ball would not get many votes," said Briton Tim Henman, who lost his third Rotterdam final match in four years on Sunday, 6-3, 6-7, 4-6.

Roddick wins

MEMPHIS, Tennessee — Andy Roddick beat Davis Cup teammate James Blake 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 in a rare all-American final Sunday in the Kroger St. Jude tournament. *Reuters, AP*

ESCUDE rejoices.

AP

3 SKIERS PENALIZED

Drugs scandal taints Games

SALT LAKE CITY —The two biggest stars of cross country skiing at the Winter Games were stripped of gold medals Sunday as a doping scandal further tarnished the Salt Lake Olympics on its final day.

Canada produced the only bright sparkle of the day, ending a 50-year gold medal drought in ice hockey, its national pastime, beating the United States 5-2 in the men's championship match.

Cross-country skiers Johann Muehlegg of Spain and Larissa Lazutina of Russia were stripped of their most recent gold medals at the games after testing positive for a performance-enhancing drug.

The two and cross-country skier Olga Danilova of Russia, tested positive for the same drug, darbepoetin, which is used to treat anemia by boosting the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to muscles.

Since it is relatively new, the product is not on the IOC's list of banned substances, though it has similar properties to the banned drug EPO, which enhances endurance.

All three athletes were tossed out of the Olympics.

"This is a very strong message the IOC is sending," said IOC director general Francois Carrard.

The International Olympic Committee said Muehlegg, who won three gold medals at these games, was ordered to return his gold in the 50-kilometer classical race. But he will be allowed to keep his gold medals in the 30K freestyle and the 10K pursuit events. *AP*

MEMBERS of 1970's US rock group Kiss, Gene Simmons (left) and Paul Stanley, perform with former ice skaters Kristi Yamaguchi and Katarina Witt during the closing ceremony of the XIXth Winter Olympic Games on Sunday.

AFP

America rocks, rolls at closing

SALT LAKE CITY — With a big sigh of relief and a star-studded celebration, Utah and America bid farewell to the Olympics on Sunday during a rollicking night of song and dance, a celebration of past athletic glory, and a quick glimpse into the future.

The closing ceremony was a wild ride - eclectic fun with a big dose of Vegas schmaltz.

Rock band Kiss, in full face paint and body armor, shared the stage with skaters Katarina Witt and Kristi Yamaguchi. Harry Connick Jr. sang while Dorothy Hamill skated. Later, in a more serious moment, the Olympic flame that burned brightly for 17 days went dark.

Most of the 2,500 athletes at the games paraded into Rice-Eccles Olympic Stadium and watched from the stands. Bobsledding bronze medalist Brian Shimer, a five-time Olympian, carried the American flag. *AP*

Sutherland beats childhood friend

CARLSBAD, California —Kevin Sutherland compensated for wild tee shots with clutch putting Sunday to beat childhood friend Scott McCarron 1-up in the Match Play Championship.

The last match they played was the San Joaquin Sectionals in high school 20 years ago, which Sutherland came back to win.

The only thing different about this match was the payoff - $ 1 million for Sutherland, who became the first player to make a WGC event his first career victory.

Sutherland, at No. 62, became the highest seed to win in the four-year history of the event.

It looked like the match would go extra holes when Sutherland missed his 18th fairway of the final round and put his approach into the bunker. He blasted out to within 30 centimeters (a foot), but McCarron had a 2.4-meter (8-foot) putt to extend the match.

His putt caught the left lip, and he turned away in shock.

It was the second straight week that McCarron's long-handled putter let him down with the tournament on the line. At Riviera, he missed 1.8-meter (6-foot) putts on each of the last three holes to finish one stroke behind in the Nissan Open.

This one hurt even more.

McCarron never trailed until the 33rd hole against a guy who hit only 10 fairways at La Costa Resort. The lasting image of Sutherland was hitting out of the rough, then squinting through the trees to see where the ball went.

SUTHERLAND kisses his trophy.

AP

No matter. The most important club in match play is the putter, and Sutherland made everything that mattered.

He holed 1.5-meter (5-foot) putts - the most dangerous on the bumpy, poa annua greens - on three straight holes to go from 1-down to 1-up. Once he had the lead, he never gave it back.

McCarron earned $ 550,000 in his first WGC event.

Brad Faxon won the consolation match and $ 450,000 when Paul Azinger bogeyed the 18th hole, then made bogey on the first extra hole. Azinger earned $ 360,000. *AP*

Shark releases 'Topex,' keeps Ervin

By Dennis Eroa

BEMEDALLED Shark Energy Drink lost peppery guard Michael "Topex" Robinson to the MBA, but is expected to keep fast-rising Ervin Sotto in its fold as it prepares for another triumphant campaign in the coming PBL conference set to start early April at the Makati Coliseum.

"We're determined to keep Ervin in our lineup," Raul Panlilio, co-owner of the Energy Drink Kings, told the INQUIRER yesterday.

Shark team manager Jesse Chua echoed Panlilio's statement. "Ervin promised to stay with Shark. I think he's going to get what he wants," Chua said after talking to the 6-foot-7 slotman, who is seeing action for defending National Intercollegiate cage championships at Roxas City.

SOTTO

Regarded as the next basketball superstar to come out in the PBL, Sotto showed flashes of brilliance against fellow Caviteño and now FedEx center Yancy de Ocampo in the last best-of-seven Challenge Cup titular series won by Shark, 4-1, over Welcoat.

Coach Leo Austria, owner of two titles, described the 20-year-old Sotto as Shark's "last line of defense." Ervin plays a crucial role in Shark's set plays. Despite his size, he has a nice outside touch which can open up the defense of opposing teams."

Sotto is the third man in the popular St. Francis of Assisi Triple Towers composed of 6-foot-8 De Ocampo and 6-foot-9 Derick Canlas, now hooking up with Shell in the PBA.

Panlilio and Austria confirmed that the 5-foot-9 Robinson, known for his pesky defense, has already transferred to the newly formed Olongapo Volunteers which will be handled by former Welcoat drillmaster Junel Baculi.

"Yes, I am going to play for Olongapo. I cannot say no to Sec. Dick Gordon," said Robinson, who is asking for a two-year contract with the Vols. Also making his decision to transfer easier is the fact that Robinson and his family reside in Olongapo.

Despite losing Chester Tolomia and Gilbert Malabanan to Ginebra, and Robinson in the MBA, Austria and Panlilio remain upbeat of Shark's bid to win its second consecutive title.

"We're actually planning to have a 12-man lineup," said Austria. "We're going to participate in the drafting next month at the moment, our lineup remains solid."

Jun Balares, a prized-recruit from Baguio City, will replace Robinson in the rotation, even as veterans Jing Rodriguez, Rysal Castro and defensive specialist Gerald Ortega remain with the team. Ysmael Junio and MC Caceres will try to fill in the shoes of Tolomia and Malabanan.

Hey Jude

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

BACOLOD CITY—Simoun Canton Jr., I only discovered three days ago, is a certified Beatlemaniac. The boys from the press row covering the PAL Interclub Golf Championship know him simply as Jun, who loves beer and brandy.

Jun, a top executive of the Philippine Airlines in Cebu, is now almost a permanent fixture of the PAL Interclub. For two decades now—or maybe more—he's been helping sportswriters do their thing at the PAL Media Center during every PAL Interclub. He makes life so easy for Rollie Estabillo each time the PAL fever is on.

How did I come to know about Jun being a Beatle fanatic like me?

Through his cell phone, fellas.

Four days ago, I was having breakfast at the Kundutel coffee shop. Suddenly, I heard a ring tone of the Beatles' "Hey Jude." It was from Jun Canton's cell phone. He had just arrived from Cebu and was tarrying at the hotel lobby.

"Is that you, Jun?" I said.

"Oh, hi, Al, it's me," Jun said. "Nice to see you again."

Soloed by Paul McCartney, the song recorded in 1968 by the Fab Four from Liverpool, became Jun's instant favorite the first day he heard it on the radio.

"I like its melody," said Jun. "But mainly, it became my Beatle favorite because of my son. He was born when the song came along."

What the father liked, the son liked, too. It was, well, your typical "Like father, like son" thing. Song and son became inseparable from the day Simoun Canton III was born in 1968.

"Almost every night that I carried him in my arms, lulling my babe to sleep, I sang 'Hey Jude'," said Jun. "If I did another song, he'd open his eyes even if he was that sleepy already. The fastest way for me to put him to sleep was sing 'Hey Jude.' It became his lullaby."

But some years back, his son migrated to Canada. For the so-called greener pastures.

Miss him?

"Yes, I do," said Jun. "But the song 'Hey Jude' makes him eternally near to me. Every ring of my cell phone feels like he's in my arms, sleeping soundly."

■

I am not surprised that Frankie Miñoza got cut in the Caltex Singapore Open last week. He's trying to groove his swing and you know how hard it is to do that, if not perfect it.

Many top pros do such a thing. Switching to a new swing.

After winning the US Masters twice, Nick Faldo changed his swing.

So with Tiger Woods, who changed his swing after winning the US Masters in 1997.

I have written why Frankie changed his swing but it should be worth mentioning it again here.

"I changed my swing because I need to adjust to the new courses being used on the Tour now," Frankie told me while he was hitting range balls at Del Monte in Cagayan de Oro some three weeks ago. "I'm now trying to master the high ball because courses have become harder, even the greens."

This week, Frankie will continue to experiment with his new swing when he plays in Kuala Lumpur. Knowing him, I know he can bounce back—with a vengeance yet.

From Kuala Lumpur, it's home sweet home for Frankie. He will play in the Casino Filipino 87th Philippine Open at Wack Wack on March 7-10.

Hopefully by that time, Frankie has already grooved his new swing.

■

I pray that Rico Javier, the former NGAP secretary general, recovers soon from a freak injury he suffered on Sunday in the 16th PAL Seniors Interclub at the Negros Occidental GCC. Playing for Villamor, Rico hit a "blind" shot down below No. 6. In his eagerness to immediately see where his ball landed, Rico rushed uphill, causing too much pressure on his left heel. A tendon or something snapped. Grimacing in pain, Rico was taken to a hospital.

"His left foot is now in a cast," said Francis Calma. "Doctors said he might have to be operated on in Manila."

Rico needs at least six weeks to recover. And then therapy.

Here's to a speedy recovery, Rico J, so that you can resume playing the game we all love.

Botor reaches net finals

JULIE Em Botor blanked Mizraim Bilugan 6-0, 6-0 and Rossaine Sapinoso by the same score to barge in two separate finals divisions in the Milo Junior Tennis Cup and Regional Workshop here at the Imus Tennis Club.

Botor takes on Zhane Quitara, a 6-0, 4-6, 6-4 winner over Chynna Mamawal in the girls' 12-under bracket; before the Park Place Cainta age-grouper meets Roxanne Bautista, who nipped Regine Monsod 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 for the girls' 14-under division.

Other Metro Manila bets who made the championship round include Akio Sy against Charles Maneja in the unisex 10-under class; Rodel Navarro with Gilbert Aiza in the Boys' 12-under bracket and Daniel Macalino against Jopy Mamawal in the Boys 14-under class.

Tracy Bautista of the host Cavite club tangles with Cristel Samala for the Girls 18-under crown in the netfest organized by the Children Tennis Workshop and supported by Adidas and Sports Kids.

TIRE SALE!
New Korean-Made Tires

SIZE:	PRICE
13"	P700/pc
14"	P800/pc
15"	P900/pc

OVER 7000 pcs. Available
For more info. call: 984-0215/16 • 984-0278/79

Garcia, Guiao prevail

THE LA SALLE Greenhills Alumni Association recently hosted the 10th Drive For a Cause Golf tournament at Sherwood Hills. Major winners were Raffy Garcia of Titleist who shot a one-over-par 73 to capture the Bro. Alphonsus Bloemen Cup. Jojo Guiao shared honors with a net score of 69.50.

The fundraiser was for the benefit of the La Salle Greenhills Adult Night High School.

JESS YUSON

TEAM CHAMPION

Members of Luisita are shown after the team ruled the 2002 PAL Interclub Seniors title last Sunday in Bacolod City. Standing (left to right) are Carlo Gamban, Richie Garcia, Lucio Tan, team captain Rudy Samson, Allan Gaston and Alex Montilebano. Seated (from left) are King Sumulong, Cesar Monuz and Alfonso Marcelo.

ADDHAIR®
...adds hair
IT'S WHAT WE DO BEST
We have the widest range of HIS (Hair Integ Systems) Developed and preferred in the USA and Europe.
CHOOSE IT. WE'LL STYLE IT.
ADDHAIR® SYSTEMS
Unit 126 Mile Long Bldg., Amorsolo cor. Herrera Sts. Makati City
815-1886 / 87

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Mangulat

GOLF: Golfglobe 2002 at 10:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

PGA Touchstone Energy Tucson Open, Second Round at 2 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

POOL: Mosconi Cup 2001 at 12:30 p.m. (r) on ESPN

Rack 'Em Up - Fong Pang Chao vs Steve Knight at 7 p.m. on ESPN

SPORTS

Editor Al S. Mendoza ◎ Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

CLOSING CEREMONY REUTERS

Fireworks go up past the Olympic flame at Rice-Eccles Stadium after the parade of athletes during the closing ceremony of the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games Sunday night. Story on A17

PBA SAMSUNG CUP

Coca-Cola tackles Hapee-RP 5 today

Teams	W	L
Purefoods	3	0
Red Bull	3	0
Alaska	2	1
Coke	2	1
Hapee-RP	1	1
Talk N Text	1	1
Sta. Lucia	1	1
FedEx	1	2
Shell	1	2
Selecta-RP	1	2
San Miguel	0	2
Ginebra	0	3

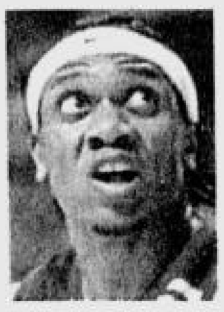
GAME TODAY: (Cuneta Astrodome) 6p.m.—Coca-Cola vs Hapee-RP Team

By June Navarro

COCA-COLA flashes its newfound strength as the Tigers face the Hapee-RP Team today in the PBA Samsung Governors Cup at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Surprisingly running second despite competing with a depleted lineup, the Tigers hope to boost their 2-1 record in the 6 p.m. duel.

Fred Williams showed his true value not seen during his past games by scoring 31 points to lead the Tigers in a rousing 85-79 triumph against San Miguel Beer last Thursday.



ELLIS

On the other hand, the Hapee-RP Team lost by a mile, 95-62, to the Talk N Text Phone Pals last week in Antipolo City.

But instead of losing heart, the Nationals vowed to make a good account of themselves this time as they attempt to identify the source of their misfortune.

Davonn Harp, Danny Seigle, Danny Ildefonso, Rudy Hatfield, Johnny Abarrientos and Jeffrey Cariaso will try to make the difference in an effort to soothe their battered pride.

Ren-ren Ritualo, Mick Penissi, Don Camaso, EJ Feihl, Boyet Fernandez and Marlou Aquino should provide all the help the Nationals direly needed.

These men won't allow a duplicate of the other national pool's misery when the Selecta-RP Team absorbed its second straight loss at the hands of Batang Red Bull on Sunday night.

Roselle Ellis, the Tigers' most dependable worker, is peaking at the right time as he blends perfectly well with Williams.

The loss of Poch Juinio, Rafi Reavis, Cariaso, Abarrientos and Hatfield doesn't create much damage on the Tigers as Freddie Abuda, William Antonio, Cris Bolado, Ato Morano, Estong Ballesteros and rookies Jojo Manalo and Leo Avenido more than fill the gap.

Meanwhile, Jimmy Alapag is expected to suit up for Selecta-RP Team when it faces Hapee-RP Team on Sunday. The 5-foot-8 Alapag was said to have gotten the go-signal from the Department of Justice to play in the PBA.

Red Cubs, Capiz rip cage foes

By Roy Luarca

ROXAS CITY—San Beda College lived up to expectations while local entry Collegio de la Purisima Concepcion of Capiz turned out to be a revelation yesterday in the 56th National Students Basketball Championships at the Dinggoy Roxas Civic Center here.

The San Beda Red Cubs opened up their title-retention campaign in the secondary division with an 87-53 dumping of Southern City College (Zamboanga), while the Capizenos followed suit with an even more impressive 96-45 drubbing of Colegio de San Agustin (Bacolod).

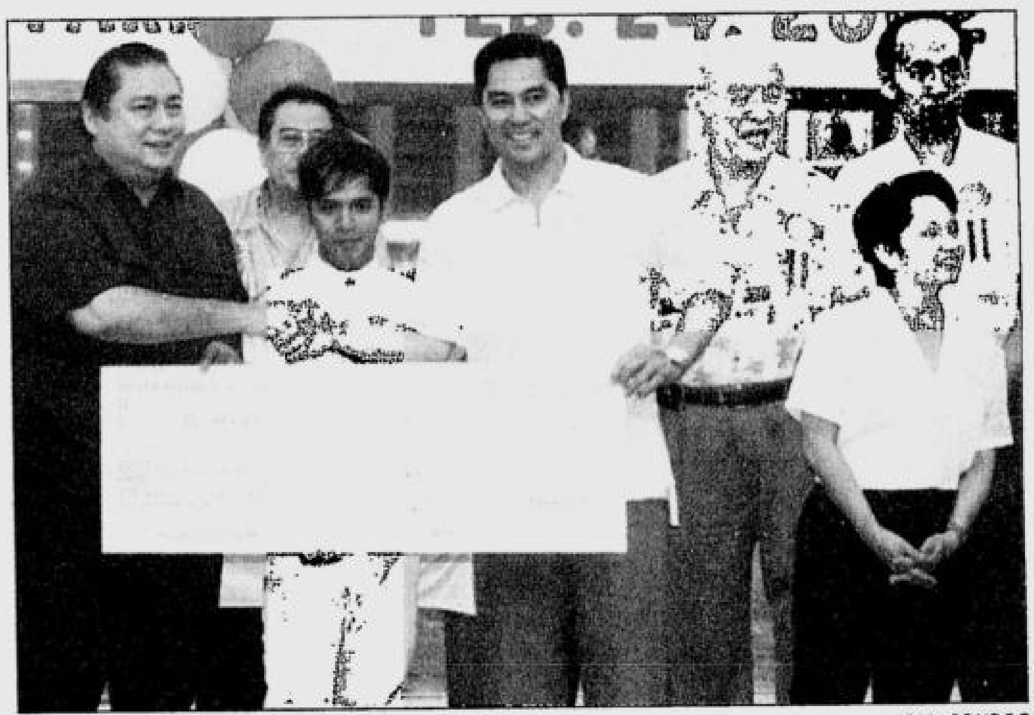
Lopsided matches marked the second day of the event organized by the Basketball Association of the Philippines and sponsored by Accel, the official outfitter of the national team, Molten (official ball) and Burlington (official socks) as West Negros College whipped Naga Hope Christian High, 88-32.

Only Agro Foundation High School had to sweat it out before beating Don Bosco Pampanga, 88-79, in another high school encounter.

Games in the collegiate division are still being held at presstime with former national titlist University of Manila and Salazar Institute of Technology slated to play at 8:30 p.m.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1994, Mapua Institute of Technology beat University of Manila, 85-71, to grab the national inter-secondary basketball crown at the University of Baguio gym. Also today in 1994, Antonio Alcasid Jr. steered Crown Colony to a winning time of 2:15.4 to rule the 1994 Freedom Cup at Sta. Ana Park.



JOAN BONDOC

HERMIE'S CHECK

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo looks at the crowd as husband Mike Arroyo (left) awards the replica of a check worth P1.1 million to sportsman-businessman Hermie Esguerra, whose champion horse Wind Blown won the 2002 First Gentleman Silver Cup race last Sunday at the Santa Ana Park. Also shown is winning jockey Fernando Raquel Jr. and PCSO offcials.

Monico still waiting

By Marc Reyes

WHAT'S taking the Philippine Olympic Committee too long to recognize newly elected Philippine Weightlifting Association president, Rep. Monico Puentevella?

Puentevella himself is asking that question after the POC prolonged his wait for recognition, although the Bacolod representative said that he is confident the POC will bestow him the recognition in a week's time.

The former Philippine Sports Commission head said POC secretary general Romy Ribaño wrote him a letter informing him that the Olympic body was already advised of the new set of PWA officers.

Ribaño even ended the letter with salutations "congratulations and more power," according to the congressman.

However, POC spokesman Gus Villanueva said the POC merely "took note" of the letters Puentevella and former PWA chief Rudy Sicat sent to the POC, advising the POC of the result of the Feb. 3 elections.

FAST, GUARANTEED TRANSMISSION SERVICES!
ANOTHER CARSAVERS FIRST!
SAVE AS MUCH AS 50%

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION DAMAGED?
NOW ITS POSSIBLE TO
DRIVE AWAY IN HALF-A-DAY!
IN A CARSAVERS RECONDITIONED A/T!

We can replace your automatic transmission in **ONLY HALF A DAY****. At **LESS THAN HALF THE COST** of a brand new replacement unit. And, with **LONGER-TERM GUARANTEES** than most brand-new transmissions!

Now that's **NOT JUST GREAT SAVINGS.** For all car owners, that's **REAL VALUE AND CONVENIENCE!**

Another exclusive innovativion from CarSavers.
The leader in customer-convenience concepts.

PLUS! Package Discount when ordered with:

Ziebart. DIAMOND GLOSS
GUARANTEED* PAINT PROTECTION
THE BRIGHTEST, LONGEST-LASTING SHINE EVER!

NEW ZIEBART ANTI-BACTERIAL DISINFECTING PROCESS
MAKE YOUR CAR GERM-FREE!
AT NO EXTRA COST!
With Full-Interior Cleaning and Detailing Service

For services worth P5,000.00 and up with the following Credit Card:
TAKE 2
0% INTEREST
6-MONTHS TO PAY!
HOT TERMS COOL PAYMENTS
HURRY IN TODAY!!
BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS BPI Express Credit

CALL OR DRIVE IN FOR MORE DETAILS.

Ziebart TidyCar. For better looking, longer lasting cars.
www.carsavers.com
CARSAVERS COMPLETE AUTO SERVICES AND BODY REPAIRS

MAKATI: 5560 South Super Highway (beside Buendia overpass) Tel.: 889-4144
MANILA: U.N. Ave., cor. Romualdez St., Paco Tel.: 525-6294 / 525-6273 / 524-1966
PASIG: E. Rodriguez Ave., (C-5) cor. J. Cruz St., Ugong Tel.: 671-9801 to 05
CEBU: Banilad Drive (beside Cebu Country Club) Tel.: (032) 232-3715
BATANGAS: Maharlika Highway, Barrio Alangilan Tel.: (043) 300-7968 to 69
* Lifetime transferable guarantee on defect-free / eligible paint against all environment-caused paint damage
**Some A/T Brands may not be immediately ready

Dress up your 2002 REVO • ADVENTURE • CROSSWIND
BUY FACTORY PRICE A.U.V. • S.U.V. • VANS • PICK-UP
Now Available:
ISUZU CROSSWIND XR (X-TRM LOOK)
CROSSROAD CONVERSION PROMO
P40,000.00
1st Time in the Philippines
CROSSWIND ACCESSORIES: Bullbar, Side Bar, Rear Bar, Bumper Overider, Chrome Mirror, Chrome Door Handle, Chrome Tail Lite, Trunk Lid Cover, Rear Spoiler, Roof Rail
TOYOTA REVO SPORTS RUNNER (SR)
CONVERSION PACKAGE PROMO P 30,000
Two-Tone Painting P 5,000 only
AVAIL PACKAGE PROMO !!!
WRAP AROUND STAINLESS BULL BARS P 17,000 only (FRONT, SIDE, REAR)
ALSO AVAILABLE:
• ADVENTURE SUPER SPORT CONVERSION P 25,000
• HI-LANDER X-TRM CONVERSION P 30,000
• FUEGO SPORTS (4X4 LOOK) CONVERSION P 25,000
WE WILL BEAT Any Price in town
KIJANG 413-8060 • 413-8077 926-3878 • 926-2473
OTHER ACCESSORIES: A-Bar, Running Board, Spoiler w/ Brake Light, Roof Rail/Rack, Sticker, Leather Seat Cover, Door Visor, Hood Guard, Console Box, Chrome Mirror, Chrome Door Handle, Wood Panel, Lexus Type Tail Light, Chrome Tail Light, Etc.

UA United Auctioneers Inc.
3 DAY UNRESERVED
TRUCKS & HEAVY EQUIPMENT AUCTION
MARCH 12, 13, & 14, 2002
Sale starts at 8:30 AM SHARP!
NO MINIMUM PRICE • TAXES & DUTIES PAID!
EVERYTHING SELLS TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER!!!
INSPECTION & REGISTRATION DATES: MARCH 9, 10 & 11, 2002
Isuzu Wing Van 50 WING VANS
80 EXCAVATORS Hitachi UH07-7
35 LOADERS TCM 50B
50 REF. VANS Canter Freezer Vans
10 4X4 TRUCKS Canter 4x4 Trucks
100 4X4'S Nissan 4x4
200 PASS VANS Lite Ace 4x4
15 MIXER TRUCKS Fuso Mixer
35 ROLLERS Ingersoll Rand Pad Foot
TCM 6 Ton Forklift
CALL NOW!! (02) 929-7868 • 920-5501 • 426-3908 • 453-7470/74 FAX: (02)929-0260
E-MAIL: info@uauctioneers.com WEB SITE: www.uauctioneers.com
UNITED AUCTIONEERS INC • UNITED AUCTIONEERS INC • UNITED AUCTIONEERS INC

METRO

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Group accuses Citra of delaying hearings on Skyway toll hike

By Christian V. Esguerra

MOTORISTS yesterday slammed the builder of the Skyway for allegedly trying to delay the hearing on the controversial increase in toll rates.

Ray Junia, head of the Movement for Responsible Enterprise, accused Citra Metro Manila Tollways Corp. (CMMTC) of "trying to buy some time and cause delays" when it failed to present its audited financial statements for a hearing at the Toll Regulatory Board.

Junia said the delay "translates to the prolonged torment to motorists" using Skyway.

The audited financial statements are crucial to the TRB case, seeking the adjustment of the toll rates at the Skyway, according to lawyer Efren Carag.

The TRB has set the next hearing on March 7 after the CMMTC requested for five working days to prepare the audited financial statements.

President Macapagal earlier suspended the collection of new fees at the North Luzon Expressway and at the Alabang-Calamba stretch of the South Luzon Expressway, following a series of protests from motorists.

Lawyer loses Nissan Patrol

A LAWYER lost his Nissan Patrol to car thieves in Quezon City Sunday evening.

Alfonso Martija, a native of Lipa City, said he parked his dark green model 1995 vehicle (UFG 549) on Timog Avenue at 9:30 p.m. When he returned 30 minutes later, the car was no longer there.

Martija said police refused to entertain his complaint after he failed to produce the original registration of the vehicle.

He told police the papers were in the stolen vehicle.

Budget cut too deep for CCP

THE CULTURAL Center of the Philippines will drop its annual outreach programs in the provinces after its 2002 budget was cut by P185 million, according to CCP Chair Baltazar Endriga.

Describing the budget cut as a "big blow to Philippine culture and the arts," Endriga yesterday said that without the programs, people in the provinces will be deprived of low-cost, if not free, performances and training sessions.

"The CCP is reaching out to the grassroots because not every body can go to the CCP to watch our performances," Endriga told the Inquirer. "But with the budget cut, we have no choice but to drop these projects."

For several years now, the CCP has been mounting plays and seminars on culture and the arts in areas such as Bukidnon, Bacolod, Tacloban, Tondo and Marikina, Endriga said.

He said the CCP also can no longer afford to stage an opera and send artists abroad as part of a regular exchange package.

The CCP administration, he said, was "alarmed" when its proposed budget for 2002 was sliced from P280 million to P95 million in the final government appropriation.

"We were cut to the bone," Endriga said.

Even if the CCP estimated its expenses for the year at P307.5 million, it only asked for P280 million, expecting to finally receive P140 million in "unreleased approved appropriation" from 1999 to 2001, Endriga said.

He said the Lower House initially slashed the P280-million budget proposal by P120 million, but a bicameral conference later whittled the budget further to P95 million.

The CCP chair said Budget Secretary Emily Boncodin later informed his office that the CCP will no longer receive the P140-million appropriation.

To cushion the effects of the budget cut, Endriga said the CCP is now implementing austerity measures and exploring other "income possibilities." He said the CCP has ordered all its departments to cut their expenses by 50 percent, while saving on its monthly expense for electricity worth P2.5 million.

Christian V. Esguerra

Erap should be allowed US trip

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

IF I were President Macapagal-Arroyo I would request the Sandiganbayan, through informal channels, to allow her predecessor, Erap Estrada, to have a knee operation in the United States.

In the eyes of the public, the President would look magnanimous even if it was the anti-graft court that gave the permission.

Most citizen's think that the decision to allow Erap to go to the United States rests with the President. They are ignorant of the independence of the judiciary from the executive and legislative branches of government.

* * *

If the Sandiganbayan does not allow the US trip, people will still blame Ms Macapagal-Arroyo.

It's a case of damned if you do and damned if you don't for the President on the controversial issue of allowing Erap's US trip.

Allowing Erap to undergo surgery on his arthritic knees in the United States will make for national reconciliation. The poor masa, who comprise the majority of the population, still symphatize with the fallen leader. They consider the plunder and other charges against him fabricated.

* * *

The government should consider Erap's case unique in that he is a former president. As a former head of state he enjoys privileges not normally accorded ordinary citizens.

For example, a former president is given an official security detail for life. This is not true of other retired high government officials.

Therefore, it is ridiculous for some sectors to say that since Erap is given the privilege to travel to the United States, then other ordinary detainees should also be given the same privilege.

However, the same privilege does not extend to Erap's son, Jinggoy. The former San Juan mayor should stay in his detention cell at the Veterans Memorial Hospital while Erap is in the United States. Jinggoy will guarantee Erap's return.

* * *

Philippine National Police chief Larry Mendoza and Interior Secretary Joey Lina, on the one hand, and PNP deputy chief Jun Ebdane, on the other, are being matched against each other like belligerent small kids.

If they get into a fight, their detractors will probably be laughing. They should ignore the agents provocateurs.

I'm ashamed to say that some of the *urot* or agents provocateurs are colleagues in media. *Pinagaaway nila sina* Lina, Mendoza at Ebdane.

* * *

The source of irritants between Lina and Mendoza, on the one hand, and the chief of the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (Naktaf) is a confession supposedly made by a Moro kidnap gang leader, Faisal Marohombsar, allegedly linking the DILG chief and the PNP chief to the kidnappings in Mindanao.

Marohombsar, of the notorious Pentagon gang, was quoted by some reports as saying that his gang was operating with the blessings of Lina and Mendoza. The reports supposedly came from Ebdane's Naktaf.

Marohombsar, who was arrested last week at the Muslim community in Quiapo, Manila, is in the custody of the Naktaf.

* * *

"Can you imagine the PNP chief and the local government secretary being accused of kidnapping?" said an incredulous PNP Deputy Director Rex Piad.

No less than President Macapagal-Arroyo herself found allegations incredible.

"I have no reason to believe him," the President said referring to Marohombsar. "If he had the blessings of Lina and Mendoza, he would not have been caught.

* * *

Ebdane's group supposedly leaked Marohombsar's "confession" to the media.

Ebdane is the heir apparent to the position of PNP chief. He would have taken over the top police post on March 17, when Mendoza was slated to retire, but the President extended Mendoza's stay for nine more months.

Ebdane and Mendoza's detractors apparently are making the extension of the latter's term the reason for the start of the turf war between the PNP chief and the PNP deputy chief for administration.

If I know Ebdane, he would not make any move that would speak a war between him and his chief. He would not have leaked Marohombsar's confession to reporters. It could have been done by some of his subordinates who wanted to make him look good.

* * *

Ebdane is too publicity-shy to invite reporters to his office and tell them about Marohombasar's alleged confession.

I know Ebdane's character. When he was the Manila police chief a couple of years ago I misunderstood his avoiding me for an interview as arrogance. I learned later he's a shy person.

Ebdane is not capable of badmouthing his superiors. During the watch of Director General Panfilo Lacson. I never heard him badmouth Lacson even if they were poised to go at each other's throat at the drop of a pin.

* * *

Jun Ebdane, a member of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1970, is an example of an officer and a gentleman.

So, Messrs Lina and Mendoza, don't be swayed by the *sulsuleros. Ginagawa lang kayong mga uto-uto!*

Pentagon head Marohombsar is probably very happy at the turn of events. Instead of him being the focus of attention, the "war" between Lina-Mendoza and Ebdane has caught the public eye.

* * *

The campaign against illegal gambling is not going anywhere because the people at the bottom of the totem pole connive with the gambling lords.

Supt. Noel Estanislao, chief of the DILG's Task Force Jericho, complains that his men never catch the big fish because they themselves tip off the gambling lords before they pounce on a *jueteng* joint.

So, next time you plan a raid, Colonel Estanislao, don't inform your men about it.

By the way, haven't your men told you that the biggest *jueteng* lord in the country is not a guy named Bong of Pampanga but a certain Tony Santos of Marikina? My sources in the gambling community say some of your men are on the take from Santos.

Napolcom issues ultimatum to Aglipay, WPD officials

By Alcuin Papa

THE NATIONAL Police Commission is giving National Capital Region Police Office chief Director Edgar Aglipay and officials of the Western Police District two weeks to implement the commission's order to stop the transfer of some 400 Manila policemen.

Napolcom vice chair and executive commissioner Rogelio Pureza told the Inquirer in a phone interview yesterday that Aglipay and senior WPD officials may face legal action if they fail to act on the Napolcom order in two weeks.

Pureza explained that the official stand of the Napolcom on the matter was that "due process" must be followed.

Pureza said they cannot allow "any relief or reassignment, if done arbitrarily in violation of our laws and without due process."

"Our order must be followed, and all officials of the PNP should follow due process," he said.

When told that members of the Manila's Finest Brotherhood Association are complaining that Aglipay and WPD officials are not implementing Napolcom's Jan. 31 order, Pureza said "we will give (Aglipay and WPD officials) a fair chance to follow our order."

The MFBA is composed of WPD members with the rank of SPO4 and below. They have been protesting Aglipay's "harsh" measures to instill discipline among the rank-and-file, and described the transfers of policemen who allegedly violated the measures as "discriminatory."

"We will see to it that our order is enforced," Pureza said. "As of now, they (Aglipay and WPD officials) might be busy. But we are giving them the benefit of the doubt. Maybe they don't see the implications of the non-implementation of our order."

If Aglipay and the WPD officials still would not implement the Napolcom order, Pureza said he will direct the commission's legal department "to institute the appropriate legal actions" against them.

The legal actions may include administrative charges against Aglipay and WPD officials, and that will depend on the outcome of Napolcom's investigation.

WPD policemen who were found to be frequently late or absent in roll-call formations or who were not wearing the proper uniform were ordered transferred to provincial posts, some as far away as Bicol and Cagayan Valley.

The Napolcom also ordered Aglipay and other district and regional police chiefs to restore to their mother units all transferred policemen.

Man stabbed for refusing to give up microphone

By Alcuin Papa

A WEEKEND trip to the local karaoke proved inauspicious for two men in Makati City.

In a span of two hours, a man was stabbed for refusing to give up the microphone to other patrons of a sing-along joint, while another was arrested for firing his gun in a drunken fit.

Bernardo Manansala, a photographer for the National Bureau of Investigation, is now behind bars after he fired his gun inside the Tinn's Videoke bar on Antipolo Street, Barangay Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati City Sunday night.

Manansala, 36, of Block 161, Lot 6, Barangay Pembo, Makati, suddenly went berserk about 9:30 p.m. while he was drinking with his companion Joey Camacho, 38, of P. Victor Street, Barangay Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati, police said.

Two hours later, security guard Jeffrey Baliguat was stabbed by 10 still unidentified men after the victim refused to yield the microphone to other customers.

Baliguat, 35, of Block 94, Lot 285, Cactus Street, Pembo, Makati, was drinking and singing his favorite songs at the Kambingan Videoke Bar on Pasay Road, Makati.

Witnesses told police at around 11:30 p.m., a waitress approached Baliguat and asked for the microphone. But Baliguat refused and even started to argue with her.

Witnesses said they saw 10 men rise from their seats and swiftly attacked the hapless guard.

They beat up Baliguat and stabbed him repeatedly, witnesses said.

Customers quickly called the police and took Baliguat to the Pasay General Hospital where he is reported to be in critical condition.

WAZZZZUP ?
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

BUMA 9595 KAMAGONG ST. MAKATI — MOONSTRUCKS / DYNASOULS 896.2116/896.1939
Café OVERDRIVE FORD BLDG. P. TAMO EXT. MAKATI — ACOUSTIC NIGHTS / NIKKI JUNIA ☎ 813.1348
Cowboy Grill BIÑAN, LAGUNA — FEEDBACK NO ENTRANCE FEE / FAT 16 ☎(049) 511.7268
Cowboy Grill ALABANG-ZAPOTE LAS PIÑAS — KOOLJACKS / SWEETBLOOD ☎ 8017644
Cowboy Grill ARQUIZA ST. MALATE — THINKERS w/ JOGRAD NO ENTRANCE FEE / POWER SURGE/FREEZE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill REMEDIOS ST. MALATE — SERSIDE NO ENTRANCE FEE / ICE KENDI ☎ 521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES Q.C. — BLAKDYAK MR. ROXY / PHYRIGIAN/BEATBOX ☎ 936.9757
KAMPO 2086 #47 WEST AVENUE Q.C. — VOLKS VIRUS / PURE INSTICT BILLIARDS: LEYVAN "BAN YAN" CONTRERA VS. ANTONIO "GAGA" GABICA
TIA MARIA'S JUPITER ST. MAKATI CITY — SOUNDSTREAM GROOVE FEB. 28 / TAFT AVE. ☎ 890.4735
TIA MARIA'S REMEDIOS COR. CAROLINA ST. — SPAGHETTI ☎ 522-0429 / VERSE 2
Tropical FOREST Cafe-Grill-Restaurant TH KALAW LUNETA MANILA — NTWINE BRING D WHOLE FAMILY & GET A FREE MEAL/400-7408/09
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 26 912.8983

Is your career going nowhere? Have we got the route for you.

Every Wednesday in our business section, we've got job-hunting tips, career guides and news on what's happening with today's workforce. A crucial task considering that the greater part of the employed consult us regularly.

PEOPLE at WORK
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173868

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	RAT RACE
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
5	SHALLOW HAL
6	IKAW LAMANG . . .
7	HINOG SA PILIT
8	VANILLA SKY

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	KATE & LEOPOLD
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	VANILLA SKY
5	SHALLOW HAL
6	HINOG SA PILIT
7	RAT RACE
8	BLACK HAWK DOWN
9	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
10	ISANG PANAGINIP

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	ISANG PANAGINIP
2	BLACK HAWK DOWN
3	RAT RACE
4	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
5	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
6	IKAW LAMANG . . .
7	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
8	SHALLOW HAL
9	IKAW LAMANG . . .
10	FROM HELL
11	KATE & LEOPOLD
12	HINOG SA PILIT

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	SHALLOW HAL
2	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
3	KATE & LEOPOLD
4	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
5	FROM HELL
6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7	THE OTHERS
8	RAT RACE
9	IKAW LAMANG . . .
10	IKAW LAMANG . . .
11	HINOG SA PILIT
12	VANILLA SKY

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
4	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
5	RAT RACE
6	BLACK HAWK DOWN
7	HINOG SA PILIT
8	KATE & LEOPOLD
9	IKAW LAMANG . . .
10	SHALLOW HAL
11	VANILLA SKY
12	ISANG PANAGINIP

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	KATE & LEOPOLD
2	VANILLA SKY
3	HINOG SA PILIT
4	IKAW LAMANG . . .
5	RAT RACE
6	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
7	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
8	SHALLOW HAL
9	CLOSED
10	CLOSED
11	CLOSED
12	CLOSED

SM SOUTHMALL
8068782

1	RAT RACE
2	VANILLA SKY
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	SHALLOW HAL
5	BLACK HAWK DOWN
6	KATE & LEOPOLD
7	IKAW LAMANG . . .
8	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
9	ISANG PANAGINIP
10	HINOG SA PILIT

SM CITY CEBU
2313676

1	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	VANILLA SKY
4	THE OTHERS
5	LORD OF THE RINGS
6	BLACK HAWK DOWN
7	IKAW LAMANG . . .
8	COLLATERAL DAMAGE

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	GLASS HOUSE
2	CLOSED
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	IKAW LAMANG
5	KATE & LEOPOLD
6	VANILLA SKY
7	CLOSED
8	HEARTS IN ATLANTIS

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	KATE & LEOPOLD
3	MARSHALL DICK
4	KAULAYAW
5	RIDING IN CARS
6	IKAW LAMANG . . .

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	SHALLOW HAL
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES

SM CINEMA GUADALUPE
8820984

1	HINOG SA PILIT
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	RAT RACE

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
3	SHALLOW HAL
4	IKAW LAMANG . . .

SM CITY DAVAO
2976999

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	IKAW LAMANG . . .
3	CORKY ROMANO
4	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE
5	VANILLA SKY
6	THE OTHERS

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM
18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

1
2

SOON TO OPEN!
2 NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART VISION & SOUND

6389781-86

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.

AYALA CINEMAS NOW SHOWING

YOUR 24 HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS • 729-7777

All Digital Sound

G1 (GLORIETTA 1)
Rated GP Great Price

1	THE MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	SHALLOW HAL
4	IKAW LAMANG HANGGANG NGAYON

G4 (GLORIETTA 4)

1	THE MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
2	RAT RACE
3	SHALLOW HAL (THX) GUARANTEED SEATS
4	VANILLA SKY
5	KATE &LEOPOLD
6	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
7	IKAW LAMANG HANGGANG NGAYON

GB1 (GREENBELT 1)

1	BRIDE W/ WHITE HAIR (Exclusive Screening)
2	SHALLOW HAL
3	NOWHERE TO HIDE (Phil. Premiere)
4	Onstage ILLUSIONE FEB. 22, 23 & MARCH 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16

ATC (ALABANG TOWN CENTER)

1	SHALLOW HAL (THX)
2	THE MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	KATE &LEOPOLD
5	RAT RACE

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DTS)	BLACK HAWK DOWN
2 (SDDS)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3 (DTS)	SHALOW HAL
4 GOLD (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	RAT RACE
6 GOLD (SDDS)	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	SHALLOW HAL
8	KATE & LEOPOLD
9	IKAW LAMANG . . .
10	VANILLA SKY

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3 (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6 (DTS)	RESERVE

Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3274

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	HINOG SA PILIT

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	SHALLOW HAL
3	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
5	HINOG SA PILIT

METROPOLIS star
tel 850.4285

1	SHALLOW HAL
2	HINOG SA PILIT
3	IKAW LAMANG . . .
4	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
5	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
6	RAT RACE
7	RESERVE
8	RESERVE

PREMIERE CINEMA
THX
(Makati City) TEL. 751-2010 TO 13

1	SHALLOW HAL

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
2	VANILLA SKY

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1	
2	HAPLOS NG PAGMAMAHAL
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	HINOG SA PILIT
A	RESERVE

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	BUBOT
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	
3	
4	HINOG SA PILIT
5	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
6	IKAW LAMANG . . .
7 (DTS)	SHALLOW HAL
8 (SDDS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
9 (DOLBY)	RAT RACE

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	HINOG SA PILIT

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	IKAW LAMANG . . .
3	ISANG PANAGINIP
4 (SDDS)	RAT RACE
5	HINOG SA PILIT
6 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
7 (DTS)	SHALLOW HAL
8	KAULAYAW
9	HALIK SA AKING LUPA

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	SHALLOW HAL
2	IKAW LAMANG . . .
3	HINOG SA PILIT
4	RESERVE
5 (SDDS)	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
6	RAT RACE
7 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
8	RESERVE

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	HINOG SA PILIT
3 (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	RAT RACE
5 (SDDS)	SHALLOW HAL

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	HINOG SA PILIT

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	HINOG SA PILIT

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	HINOG SA PILIT
Lords	HINOG SA PILIT
Jennet	

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	SHALLOW HAL

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	IKAW LAMANG . . .
3	RESERVE
4	HINOG SA PILIT
5	SHALLOW HAL

New Divisoria Mall DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	HINOG SA PILIT
3	HALIK SA AKING LUPA
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	RESERVE

FRC Cinema
Talaba Bacoor Cavite

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	HALIK SA AKING LUPA

Berma
tel 879.2029

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	IKAW LAMANG . . .

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	BUKO PANDAN
2	SHALLOW HAL

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	SHALLOW HAL
3 (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	RIDING IN CARS
2 (DTS)	IKAW LAMANG . . .
3 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	SHALLOW HAL

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	RIDING IN CARS
2 (DOLBY)	SHALLOW HAL
3 (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	IKAW LAMANG . . .

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	FINAL ANSWER
2	IKAW LAMANG
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	KAULAYAW
3 (DOLBY)	KATE & LEOPOLD
4 (DTS)	HEARTS IN ATLANTIC

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	GIRLS FEVER
3	ANGELS EYE
4 (DTS)	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	IKAW LAMANG . . .
3 (DTS)	MARSHALL DICK
4	HALIK SA AKING LUPA
5	SHALLOW HAL

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	SHALLOW HAL

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1	IKAW LAMANG . .
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	SHALLOW HAL

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	IKAW LAMANG . . .
3	SAKIM SA PAGMAMAHAL

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	MARSHALL DICK
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	RESERVE

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	FINAL ANSWER
2 (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	HALIK SA AKING LUPA
2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3	IKAW LAMANG

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	HEART IN ATLANTIC
3	VANILLA SKY
4	IKAW LAMANG . .

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY SR)	KATE & LEOPOLD
2	IKAW LAMANG . .
3 (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	THE OTHERS

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS

CMG INTERNATIONAL

PREMIERE CINEMA
THX
NOW SHOWING
Shallow Hal

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS

NOW SHOWING

galleria
632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279

1 THX	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
3	SHALLOW HAL
4	RAT RACE
5	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
6	RIDING IN CARS
7	VANILLA SKY
8	IKAW LAMANG . . .
9	KATE & LEOPOLD
10	BLACK HAWK DOWN

ermita
536 -7809- 12

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	RAT RACE
3	IKAW LAMANG . . .
4	RIDING IN CARS
5	KATE & LEOPOLD
6	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
7	SHALLOW HAL

metro east - marcos hway
682- 8193 / 8280

1	KATE & LEOPOLD
2	SHALLOW HAL
3	IKAW LAMANG. . .
4	RAT RACE
5	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
6	HINOG SA PILIT
7	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
8	VANILLA SKY

novaliches
935- 3229 - 30

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	VANILLA SKY
3	BLACK HAWK DOWN
4	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5	SHALLOW HAL
6	IKAW LAMANG . . .
7	RAT RACE
8	KATE & LEOPOLD

imus
471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
3	HINOG SA PILIT
4	SHALLOW HAL
5	IKAW LAMANG . . .
6	RAT RACE

bacolod
441- 0453 / 0459

1	VANILLA SKY
2	LORD OF THE RINGS
3	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
4	GLASS HOUSE
5	MAY PAG IBIG PA KAYA
6	DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

iloilo
336- 8077 - 78

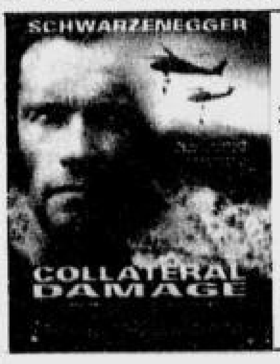
1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
2	HEART IN ATLANTIS
3	IKAW LAMANG . . . .
4	GLASS HOUSE
5	KATE & LEOPOLD
6	LORD OF THE RINGS

star mills- Sn. Fernando, Pamp.
875- 1304

1 OPENS February 27, 2002
2
3
4
5
6

Avail our Special Opening Treat:
• FREE ICED tea & Popcorn for every purchase of two(2) movie tickets.
• Watch 4 times & get FREE movie pass.

malabon citisquare- soon to open.



LATE NIGHT SCREENING @ GALLERIA
THX
FEB. 22-23, 2002
11:00pm.

how-2-reach-us:
email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie 536- 7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	IKAW LAMANG . . .
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	HINOG SA PILIT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (SDS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	SHALLOW HAL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	VANILLA SKY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	RAT RACE
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	IKAW LAMANG . . .
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	TATARIN / BOLD AFFAIR
ODEON	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
ODEON-2	HALIK SA AKING LUPA
ROBEN	HINOG SA PILIT
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	THE ONE / CAPT. CORELLI'S MANDOLIN
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	HINOG SA PILIT
REMAR	HINOG SA PILIT
REMAR-2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	IKAW LAMANG HANGGANG NGAYON
B	HINOG SA PILIT
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
CINEMA-2	SHALLOW HAL
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	REBULOSYONARYO
CINEMA-2	HALIK SA AKING LUPA
CINEMA-3	MARSHALL DICK
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	FROM HELL
CINEMA-6	KATE & LEOPOLD
CINEMA-7	IKAW LANG HANGGANG NGAYON
CINEMA-8	KUNG IKAW AY ISANG PANAGINIP
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	RIDING CARS w/ BOYS
CINEMA-12	VANILLA SKY
CINEMA-14	IKAW LANG HANGGANG NGAYON
CINEMA-15	IKAW LANG HANGGANG NGAYON
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	RAT RACE
CINEMA-2	KATE & LEOPOLD
CINEMA-3	SHALLOW HAL
CINEMA-4	MOTHMAN PROPHECIES
CINEMA-5	RIDING IN CARS W/ BOYS
CINEMA-6	COLLATERAL DAMAGE
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

Promising stand-up comedian gets big break

SING-ALONG bars are leading breeding grounds for star stand-up comedians. Long before they became household names and began earning big bucks, the likes of Arnel Ignacio, Allan K and Ai-Ai de las Alas all honed their comic skills in places like the Music Box and the Library.

Tonight, promising stand-up comedian Jeff Vasquez will be given his big break as he mounts "It's My Turn . . . Jeff Vasquez" at the Music Box in Timog Avenue, Quezon City.

The show is probably the biggest of its kind accorded to a relatively unknown comedian. Jeff will have song goddess Lani Misalucha as special guest.

Also lending support to his performance are "Eat Bulaga" host Ruby Rodriguez, sexy star Natasha Ledesma, R&B duo The Canto Boys and newest boy band sensation Synch-O.

The show is mounted by JCS Entertainment. Noel Ferrer of "Martin @ Late Nite" fame wrote the script. Maxi Cinco and Ramon Depositorio created Jeff's wardrobe.

Celebrity stylist Mario Alondra is in charge of Jeff's hair and make-up.

Eric Antonio of The Tux, Liezl Tiamzon of ABS-CBN's "Recuerdo de Amor" and Carlo Bulahan are in charge of the arrangements for Jeff's repertoire.

Renowned photographer Dominique James did Jeff's publicity photos.

Tickets are at P500 and P300. For inquiries, call JCS Entertainment at 0917-898-4470.

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING

WINNER
4 GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS
BEST PICTURE
BEST ACTOR
BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS
BEST SCREENPLAY
RUSSELL CROWE A BEAUTIFUL MIND

RUSSELL CROWE
A BEAUTIFUL MIND
THE ONLY THING GREATER THAN THE POWER OF THE MIND IS THE COURAGE OF THE HEART.
PG 13
February 26, 2002
Tuesday-7:30 p.m.
@ Robinsons Movieworld Galleria
Cinema 6
THIS PREMIERE IS STRICTLY INVITATIONAL
REGULAR SCREENING BEGINS FEBRUARY 27, 2002

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City
Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

RAT RACE - GP 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50	KATE & LEOPOLD - GP 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50	SHALLOW HAL - P 13 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
MOTHMAN PROPHECIES - P 13 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40	RIDING IN CARS w/ BOYS - P 13 1:20, 4:00, 6:40, 9:30	COLLATERAL DAMAGE - R 18 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

Matinee. P80, Mon.-Fri.,11:00 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.

In the Ultimate Haunted House, there's
death in every door & a ghost in every room!
SPECIAL EFX + TERROR BEGINS TOMORROW!
MTRCB RATING R Restricted Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

The witch
Misery loves company.
Avenging mother
First born son
The lunatic serial killer
Withered lover
Decapitated head
Murderous blacksmith
strangled cheerleader
Naked princess
Grotesque baby
???
Torn prince
THIRTEEN GHOSTS

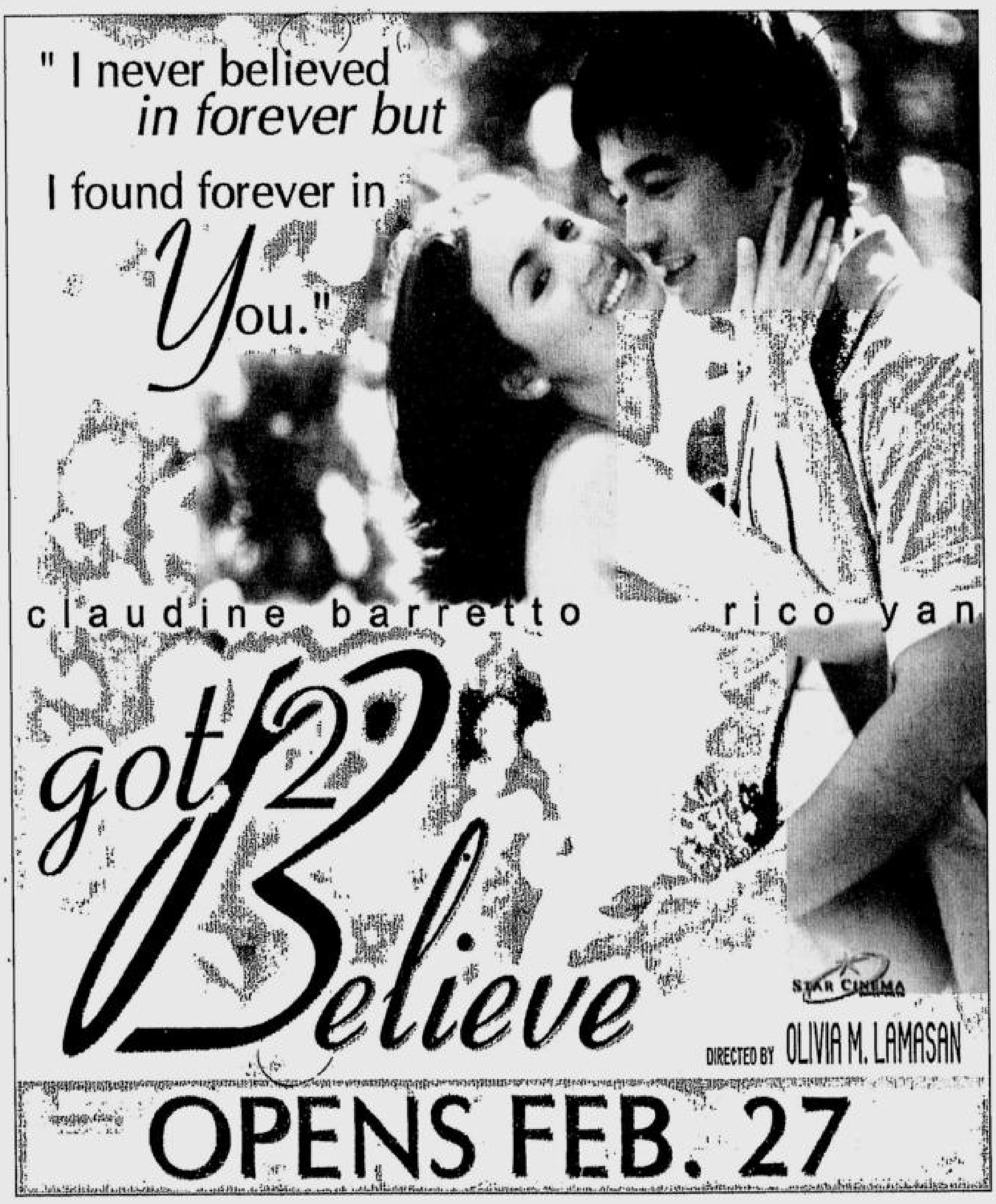
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

AYALA CINEMAS ARTFILM GREENBELT Art Film
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

Sexy... Hot... Exciting...
SALSA!
A Film By JoyceSherman Buñuel
At age 24, Rémi Bonnet, brilliant pianist, abandons Chopin and Toulouse to play the music he has secretly loved for years - Salsa! He heads for Paris, the salsa capital of Europe, only to discover to his great surprise, that nobody wants a white boy in Latin band! Felipe, his Cuban friend, sets him straight: " You don't have the Latino look, muchacho! Today, if your are not Cubano or Columbiano, you are out!". Undaunted, Rémi deliberately takes on the identity, accent and complexion of an unemployed alien in a city where most foreigners will do almost anything to become French. Barreto, 75, the legendary Cuban composer, who is about to close down the once famous Casa Cubana, offers Rémi a job giving dance lessons to the locals. It is here that Rémi falls in love with Nathalie. Her family's "secrets and lies" reveal parental links to Barreto. Do these links explain why this shy beauty ought to be a bomb on the dance floor?
WINNER!
Best Feature - Avignon/New York Film Festival
A French Film with English Subtitles
NOKIA INQUIRER FORTUNE Tobacco Corporation

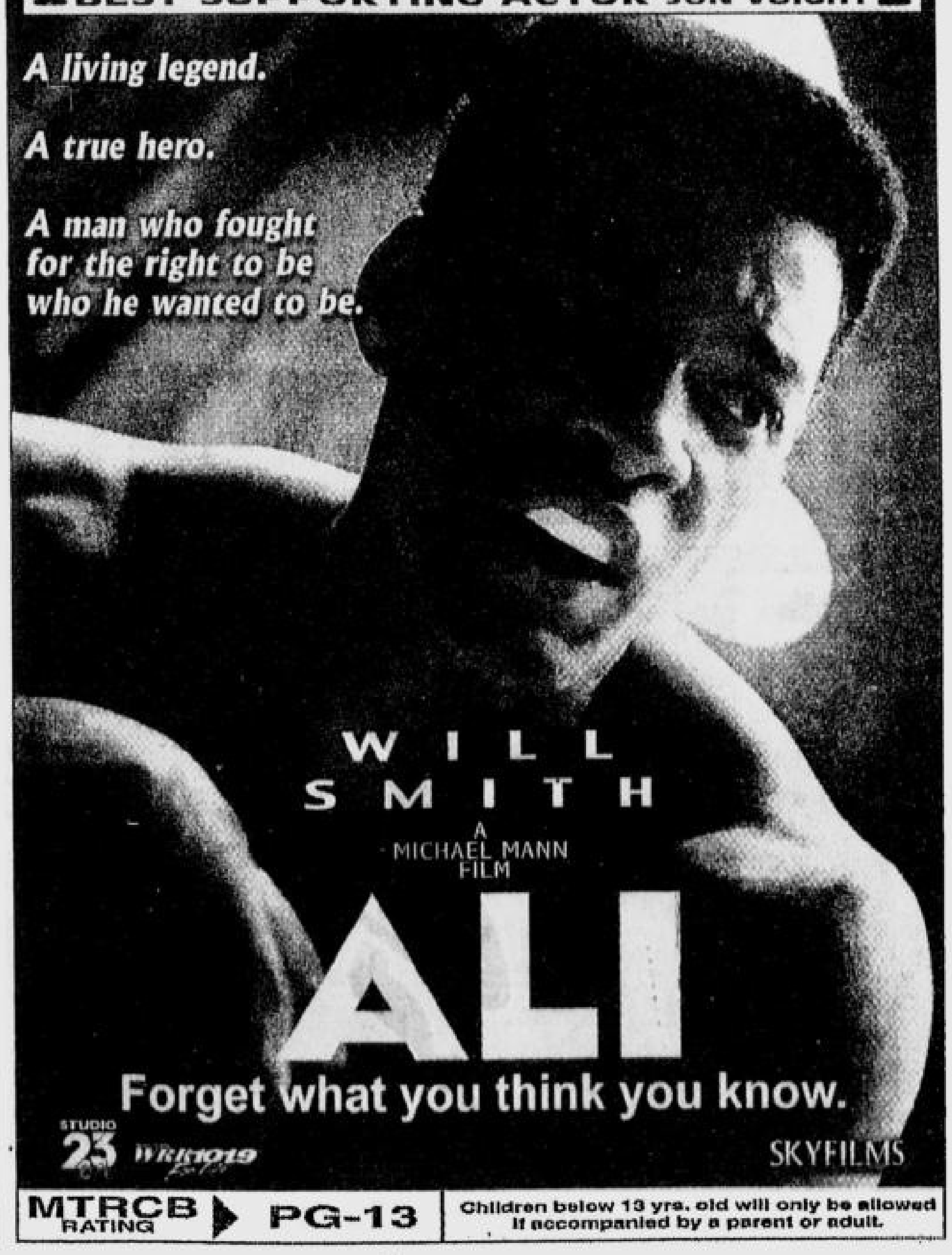
Celebrate
the Chinese Film Festival
ArtFilm, Greenbelt, Feb. 13 to 26
NOW SHOWING
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON
RELIVE THE TIMELESS STORY OF STRENGTH, SECRETS & TWO WARRIORS WHO WOULD NEVER SURRENDER.
WINNER & NOMINATED IN DIFFERENT CATEGORIES IN NUMEROUS AWARD GIVING BODIES:
Academy Award
Australian Film Critics Circle Award
Bergen International Film Festival
Bodil Award
Boston Society of Film Critics Award
British Academy Awards
Directors Guild of America
European Film Awards
Golden Globe Awards
Golden Horse Award
Norwegian International Film Festival
Toronto International Film Festival
& many more.
AYALA CINEMAS Art Film
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13 (Re-issue)

CROUCHING TIGER HIDDEN DRAGON


" I never believed in forever but I found forever in You."
claudine barretto
rico yan
got 2 Believe
STAR CINEMA
DIRECTED BY OLIVIA M. LAMASAN

OPENS FEB. 27

OPENS TOMORROW
ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST ACTOR-WILL SMITH
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR-JON VOIGHT


A living legend.
A true hero.
A man who fought for the right to be who he wanted to be.
WILL SMITH
A MICHAEL MANN FILM
ALI
Forget what you think you know.
STUDIO 23
SKYFILMS

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Steve Martin rediscovers his literary muse

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

MOST people know **Steve Martin** as a popular comedy star, the lead of such hit rib-ticklers as "Father of the Bride," "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" and "Parenthood."

But Martin has another, more serious side: he's a well-regarded and versatile writer—a playwright, movie scriptwriter and novelist all rolled up into one terrifically busy person!

Fact is, he's been writing for decades, mostly away from the public eye. He began his career in entertainment not as a performer, but by writing comic routines for TV shows like "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour" and "The Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour."

Then came "Saturday Night Live," and Martin finally got his chance to both write and perform. He did so well as a comic actor that, before he knew it, his performances had eclipsed his work as a writer.

Soon, he had become so busy as a comedy star that he had little time left to devote to his first love. But he never forgot his literary muse.

He found time to co-write the script for the comedy film, "The Jerk," in which he played an oddball character who believed with all his heart that he was born a poor, black child.

In 1987, he wrote the script for "Roxanne," the plot of which he based on **Edmund Rostand**'s "Cyrano de Bergerac." People were surprised that he could turn out such a professional piece of work, but he put them in their place when he revealed that he was no tyro, that he had in fact published his first bestseller 10 years before. It was "Cruel Shoe," a collection of short, short stories in the spirit of his comedy routines.

By the 1990s, Martin still had a flourishing career as a comedy star, but he decided to finally give his writing the attention it deserved. He began by writing a play, "Picasso at the Lapine Agile," about the Spanish artist's encounter with **Albert Einstein**.

He then wrote humorous pieces for the New Yorker, which he later compiled into a book self-derisively titled "Pure Drivel." The pieces were satirical jibes at the oddities of contemporary culture that found an enthusiastic market among sophisticated readers—a far cry from the mass audience that was the target of Martin's comedy film starrers.

Next, Martin wrote a novel, "Shopgirl," about a loner with two cats who has tentative relationships with two similarly iconoclastic men. This tied in perfectly with Martin's penchant for writing and acting in films about oddball characters who are eventually accepted and even embraced by the audience.

In 1994, he adapted **George Eliot**'s "Silas Marner" into the film, "A Simple Twist of Fate," where he played an embittered man who was cuckolded by his wife. He isolated himself in a small town until a child came into his life, drawing him out of his shell.

With other such films, Martin has established himself as the thinking man's comedian. But he feels most fulfilled when the literary community embraces him as one of its own.

The movies may be more popular than books or theater, but Martin is slowly but surely distancing himself from the glittering world of big-screen entertainment, so he can really concentrate on writing, the vocation that best defines him.

Chinese pianist performs in Manila

CELEBRATED Chinese pianist **Tian Jiang** will have a return engagement on Feb. 27 at the Francisco Santiago Hall under the auspices of the National Philharmonic Society.

A winner of the All-China Music Competition and a laureate of the 1990 Tchaikovsky Competition, Tian Jiang first came to international attention when he appeared with Russian pianist **Vladimir Ashkenazy** in a BBC film about the Russian virtuoso's historic visit to China.

Also a recipient of the Van Cliburn Award, the Chinese pianist will perform a solo program consisting of Schumann's Carnival Op. 9, Chopin's Nocturne in E flat Major Op. 9, N. 2, and Liszt's Mephist Waltz. He will open the recital with his own composition, "Shanghai Dream," and will end it as soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto in A Major K 488 with the UST Symphony under the baton of **Herminigildo Ranera**. Call 721-7255.

Benefit concert

BARBIE'S Cradle, Sessionroad, Color It Red and Sandwich are the bands that will perform at a benefit concert at 7 p.m. on March 1 at the UP Theater in UP Diliman, that is dedicated to **Raquel Edralin-Tiglao** and her work to protect and promote women's health and rights.

Other performers include **Cynthia Alexander**, **Grace Nono, Carol Bello** of Pinikpikan and **Susan Fernandez**. The concert is also the opening salvo of the celebration of International Women's Month.

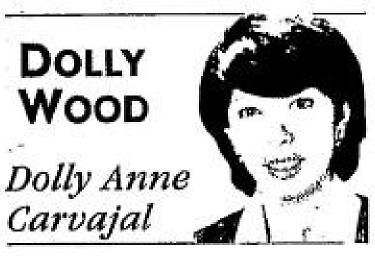
New telenovela

CHANNEL 2 has a new telenovela, "Nunca te Olvidare," that airs Monday to Friday at 2:30 p.m. Situation: After her mother's death, young Esperanza is sent to live with Don Antonio Uribe, the love of her mother when she was young.

Antonio's wife, Consuela, hates the child and treats her cruelly because she is a reminder of her husband's first love.

Fortunately, Luis Gustavo, Antonio and Consuelo's son, is drawn to Esperanza and protects her from his mother's wrath.

Baby brings new meaning to Karen Davila's work



DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

KAREN Davila always delivers the news as it unfolds.

True to form, upon delivering her firstborn, she immediately sent text messages to her friends and colleagues as soon as she was wheeled out of the recovery room. She even put on make-up so she would be ready when well-wishers arrived.

The brand-new mom beamed: "**David Joshua** was born 7.9 pounds before 7a.m. last Feb 20. He is a mixture of DJ and me. He's got the cutest lips. DJ witnessed the whole CS operation. My baby has completed me as a person!"

Why David Joshua? So that his initials will also be DJ, like his dad?

Karen smiled. "Not only that. I chose those names because they are men of God. My favorite is King David who is known as a man after God's own heart. Joshua was obedient to the Lord and entered the promised land."

No doubt Karen will make sure she raises her baby boy to be like those biblical heroes. Being the woman on the go that she is, will she ever give up her career to be a full-time mom?

"Let's put it this way," she said. "As **Cindy Crawford** said, by giving birth you have to prioritize. Now you're looking at your priority. I love my work and having a baby has made it even more meaningful."

Congrats, my dear friend Karen. Now you're officially a superwoMOM!

Coca Cola Musicola

It was a sweltering Tuesday noon at The Fort in Makati, but everyone at Caramba was feeling exhilarated with the deluge of fantastic music and lots of Coca-Cola. It was the launch of Coca-Cola's all-media celebration of the Pinoy teen, his insatiable appetite for music during every waking (and walking) moment as shown in Coke's newest television commercial.

The Coca-Cola Musicola launch was livened up by the upbeat performances of bands that appear in Coke's newest TV commercial: Parokya ni Edgar; Wolfgang, Barbie's Cradle and singers **Anna Fegi**, **Roselle Nava** and **Rico J. Puno**. It was a showcase of immense talent and tongue-in-cheek humor.

But the fun of Musicola had only just begun. On TV, Coke satisfies the youth's love for music in ASAP's Jam with the Stars, or viewers may join the making of the band and sit on the special red couch to get up close and personal with their favorite musical performers.

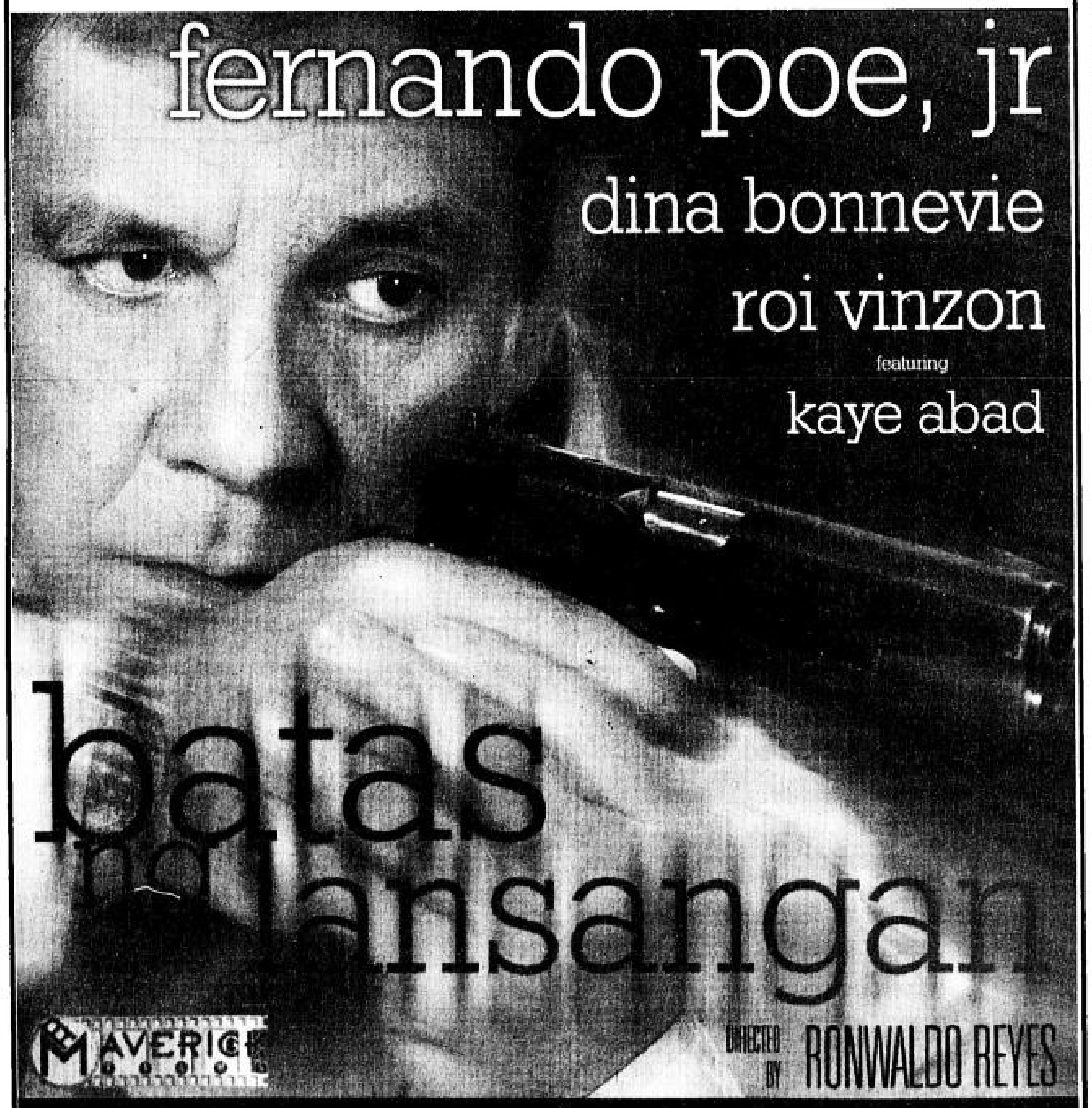
Even the barangays and provinces will be set ablaze with the Coca-Cola Musicola blitz. It will perk up the fiesta scene with its attractions, including videoke booths and carnival games.

If you think you've got the voice, you should definitely have a go at Coca-Cola Sing Sarap.

For the techno savvy check out *www.coca-colamusicola.com*. If you're with a band, you can send your original MP3 recording and get a chance to win in the MP3 Band Search. Or you may join the Net Jock Search, an online contest for the hippest music jock on the Internet.

For feedback, e-mail friends_at_dsquare@yahoo.com or wateringhole2000@yahoo.com

MTRCB RATING PG - 13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult



OPENS TOMORROW

Canada's Cirque du Soleil to perform at Oscars show

LOS ANGELES—This year's Oscars ceremonies will feature a circus act in the form of the aerial antics of the hit Canadian circus Cirque du Soleil, organizers said Friday.

The troupe of acrobats and avant-garde circus performers—who have entertained around 30 million people across the globe—will appear on stage at the 74th annual Academy Awards in a unique nod to film-making.

"Cirque du Soleil will be performing a piece that is a salute to a particular aspect of film we will be honoring," Oscar show producer Laura Ziskin said.

"I'm not going to say exactly what they're planning, but I can tell you that it will include a film element and will be spectacular and original," she added.

The act will include around 30 artists from five different Cirque du Soleil productions, who will perform to music composed by Benoit Jutras in a piece choreographed by Debra Brown.

The Academy Awards, cinema's highest honors, will be handed out in a ceremony in Hollywood on March 24. *AFP*

Play contest deadline extended

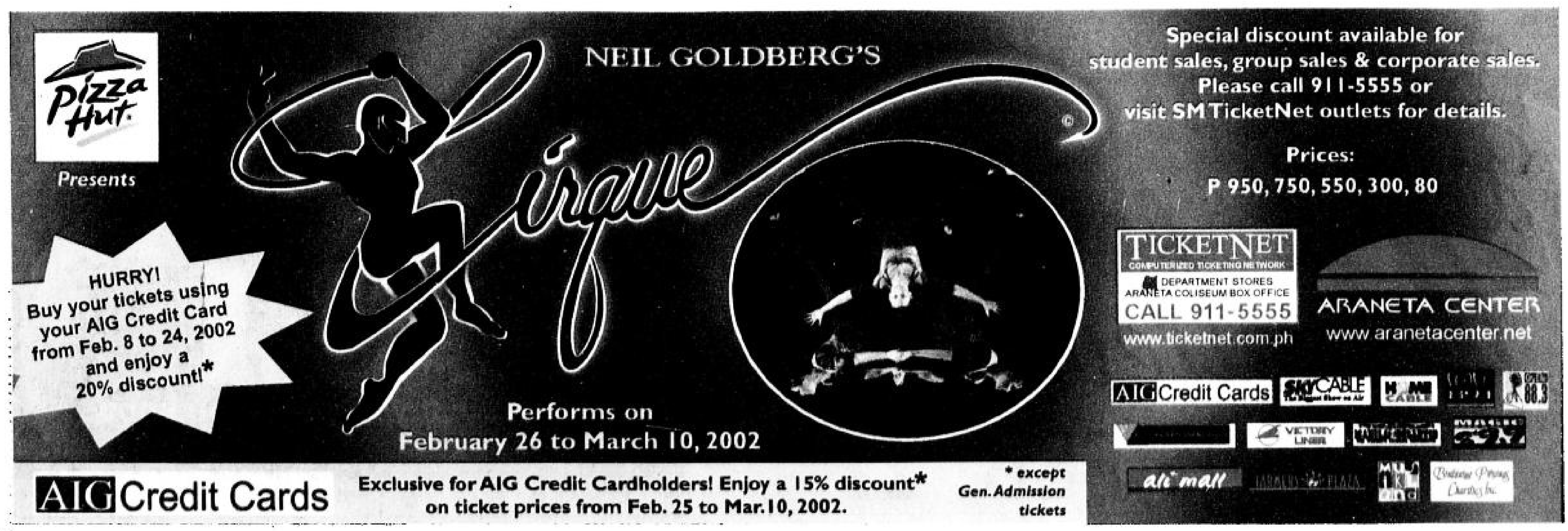
THE DEADLINE for the playwriting contest of Wings Entertainment has been extended to March 20, 2002.

The winners will be known in the last week of April, Wings Entertainment announced last week.

Play scripts on any subject should be submitted in three copies to Wings Entertainment c/o ACT Entertainment Inc., Room 1543 Mega Plaza Bldg. (back of Robinson's Galleria), ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

The grand prize winner will win cash and a trophy. The play will be staged in the last quarter of the year.

For details, call 687-1855 or 687-1856.



HURRY! Buy your tickets using your AIG Credit Card from Feb. 8 to 24, 2002 and enjoy a 20% discount!*

Performs on February 26 to March 10, 2002

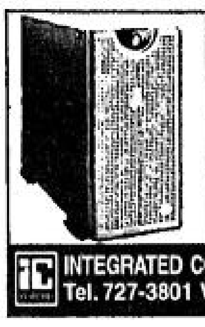
Special discount available for student sales, group sales & corporate sales. Please call 911-5555 or visit SM TicketNet outlets for details.

Prices: P 950, 750, 550, 300, 80

TICKETNET COMPUTERIZED TICKETING NETWORK DEPARTMENT STORES ARANETA COLISEUM BOX OFFICE CALL 911-5555 www.ticketnet.com.ph

AIG Credit Cards Exclusive for AIG Credit Cardholders! Enjoy a 15% discount* on ticket prices from Feb. 25 to Mar. 10, 2002. * except Gen. Admission tickets

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 26, 2002
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1
BUSINESS
Editor Raul O. Marcelo ● Assistant Editor Corrie S. Narisma



DELL™
PowerEdge 2500
Scalable Workgroup Server
Call us today to speak with an expert about the server that's right for you
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC. (ICS)
Tel. 727-3801 Website: www.ics.com.ph

LOSING YOUR HAIR?
Seek professional help at Svenson International.
Call 842-1389

Metro Pacific to seek debt relief

By Doris C. Dumlao

PROPERTY developer Metro Pacific Corp. will seek concessions from creditors on P12 billion worth of debts after it posted more than P20 billion in losses last year and received only bargain bids for its controlling stake in crown jewel Fort Bonifacio Global City.

INQUIRER sources disclosed that MPC would disclose a "top-to-bottom" financial restructuring strategy this Friday, simultaneous with the announcement of the huge net losses for 2001, a reversal of the P2.25-billion net income in the previous year.

The sources said MPC was seeking the restructuring of principal debts to give itself some breathing space to rationalize debts, but would still service some interest payments.

They said the restructuring would be comprehensive, thus including measures to address the liabilities of other subsidiaries.

The stock market has been worried about MPC's debt woes since last year, but the company indicated its commitment to raise funds by auctioning off its 69.6-percent stake in Bonifacio Land Corp., co-developer of the 150-hectare Global City. With the slump in the property market, however, the company has found it difficult to find an acceptable compromise for the project, to which it put a price tag of about $200 million.

The sources said MPC had begun negotiating with various creditors to firm up a debt restructuring plan, possibly including a conversion of some debts into equity.

Of MPC's P12 billion in debts, about P7 billion is owed to creditor-banks, including ING Barings and Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co.

MPC likewise owes P5 billion to Hong Kong-based parent company First Pacific Co. Ltd. through Larouge BV, which provided a bridge financing for BLC last year. The company already failed to retire this P5-billion debt when it fell due last December.

On top of MPC's own debts, subsidiaries BLC and Fort Bonifacio Development Corp. also owe P2.8 billion and P2.5 billion, respectively. BLC has a 55-percent stake in FBDC, a joint venture with state-controlled Bases Conversion Development Authority.

Meanwhile, sources close to MPC explained that unlike prime loan accounts that threatened the banking sector like automotive battery-maker Ramcar Inc., MPC's debts were backed by an extensive landbank. However, the sources said resorting to *dacion en pago* or payment-in-kind was not an option at the moment.

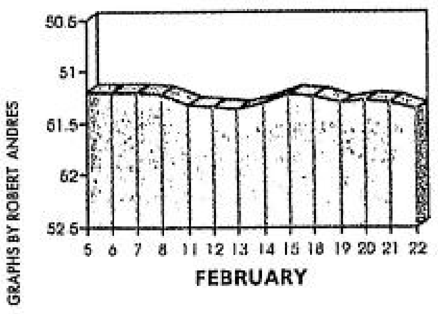
The sources said MPC decided to seek support from creditors for a "creative and comprehensive" program and not "piece-meal" solutions.

METRO/ B3

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



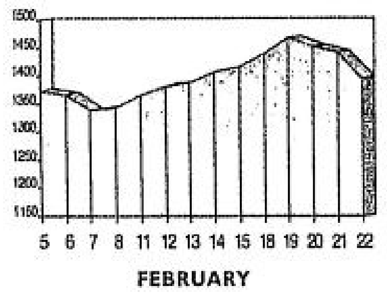
PESO-DOLLAR RATE

P51.368 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Feb. 22, 2002

¥ 133.84 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Feb. 25, 2002

GOLD: $291.40/291.90
per ounce Hong Kong,
Feb. 25, 2002

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B2)

STOCK MARKET

Sun Life income up 2% in 2001

SUN Life Financial Philippines posted last year a net income of P1.3 billion or 2 percent better than the previous year. This translated to a return on equity of 14.9 percent.

Sun Life of Canada (Philippines) Inc. vice president for finance Caesar Altarejos Jr. said there was good growth in premium incomes, specially on renewals, and the company was able to manage its expenses well.

Based on unaudited financial statements, Sun Life Financial in the Philippines capped 2001 with gross revenue at P8.8 billion, 14.2 percent higher than year 2000 figures. Similarly, the company's income from investment surged 13.8 percent to P2.9 billion.

Owing largely to the sustained growth of renewal premiums, the company also posted a 14.4-percent growth in total premiums, which was pegged at P5.8 billion by the end of 2001.

Sun Life Financial Philippines said it continued to exercise prudence in its expense management. Its operating expenses grew 7 percent or less than half of its growth in premium collections to P1.243 billion in 2001 from P1.162 billion the year before.

Sun Life's total investment portfolio by the end of last year surged 17.8 percent to P29.454 billion. Its total assets increased by 16.7 percent from P26.89 billion in 2000 to P31.38 billion in 2001.

JG Summit lists priorities

JG SUMMIT Holdings Inc. of taipan John Gokongwei Jr. would be focusing on its telecommunications, airline and retail businesses as these enter into fiercely competitive markets this year.

"We're going to pay attention to GSM (global system for mobile communications), retail and the international airline," Gokongwei told the INQUIRER in an interview.

Gokongwei, who now sits as chair emeritus of the conglomerate, said his group was ready to take on the competition that it would surely meet in its ventures.

Digital Telecommunications Philippines Inc. would be competing with dominant cellular players Globe Telecom and Smart Communications Inc. in the GSM arena.

The two carriers, plus their subsidiaries Isla Communications Inc. and Pilipino Telephone Corp., have more than 11 million subscribers.

Gokongwei's Cebu Pacific Air has also started taking on pioneer flag carrier Philippine Airlines Inc. of beer and tobacco magnate Lucio Tan in the international routes.

Finally, you're home.
Thanks to flexible housing loan programs of East West Bank.

Home Suite Loan
Good options. Better decisions.

One of the most important decisions you will ever make is to build your dream home. Because you and your family's security depend on it. Fortunately, East West Bank's Home Suite Loan gives you more options that help you arrive at a sound decision. Consider these fine housing loan programs:

LotAcquire. The initial step in securing a real estate property of your choice.

HomeAcquire. The dream house and lot, townhouse or condominium unit that you've always longed for can be yours.

HomeConstruct. Custom-build your dream home on a presently owned vacant lot.

HomeImprove. Expand, improve or renovate your home attuned to changing times.

HomeFlex. Use your home as collateral for business expansion, travel or take advantage of other investment opportunities.

Choose from either the Standard Amortization Payment Scheme or our unique Customer Protect Financing Plan, a pre-determined payment system that protects you from fluctuating interest rates and helps you better manage your cash flow.

Competitive rates, flexible terms, invaluable benefits. That's East West Bank's Home Suite Loan for you.

EASTWESTBANK
Building Relationships. Completing Lives.

To know more about East West Bank's Home Suite Loan:
Call East West Bank Marketing Support Division 830-8910 • 830-8912 or Consumer Loans Department 830-8727 to 30 • Email us at service@eastwestbanker.com
Log on to www.mylife.com.ph/myhome • Visit your nearest East West Bank Branch

Until the fast lady signs

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

ONCE again San Miguel Corp. is honoring its old tradition, handed down the years from generation to generation ever since the first people power in 1986.

And that is, the company must admit new directors into its board. This is a basic rule in business. Private businesses like San Miguel have to overhaul their board whenever our country elects or installs a new administration. Very basic rule!

Normally, that should happen every six years. Abnormally, like what happened through the second people power last year, it just comes up without much warning.

News reports said anyway that San Miguel and this cute administration just signed an "interim agreement." Officially, it is called a "power sharing" agreement. In effect, it just allows political hangers-on to get seats in the San Miguel board.

In business, however, they sing praises for PCGG Chair Haydee Yorac. She refuses a board seat in San Miguel. Characteristically, she is not after all those perks!

* * *

DEFINITELY, the agreement is big news. Of all the newsworthy events in our country, such as the politics and the pretensions in the celebration of Edsa I, only that agreement made it to the Asian Wall Street Journal yesterday.

Again, that's the Asian Wall Street Journal, the bible of business in the region. It said the agreement should clear the way for the San Miguel-Kirin deal. This is proof, once again, that the investing world is interested in the deal.

Kirin Brewery, the largest beer company in Japan, is putting some $540 million in San Miguel, the largest private business in the Philippines. The deal almost became, like the San Miguel board seats, a matter of politics.

Apparently ignorant of the facts, or just plain ignorant, period, certain PCGG officials even called press conferences, hastily, to denounce the deal. They said it could trigger World War III or something stupid like that.

Luckily, knowing that the world was watching us, Gloriaetta stepped in, and she appointed Trade Secretary Mar Roxas to look into it. Thus, sense won over ignorance. That agreement was mainly Mar's work. See, there is a God.

* * *

BUT as they say, it's not over until the fast lady signs. San Miguel stockholders are scheduled to decide on the deal in a special meeting tomorrow. I guess Yorac is calling the shots for the government. Meaning, no more stupidity!

The San Miguel-Kirin deal, as I have been saying before I was rudely interrupted by this Balikatan exercises, gives this country the best PR for investment promotion.

Listen to UBS Warburg, the Swiss investment banking group that keeps track of stock markets all over the world. It said that, with the Kirin investment, San Miguel now has $1 billion in cold cash to buy businesses left and right. It is changing strategy.

To grow, San Miguel tried to flood the local beer market in the past two years. Sales went flat. Look, even newsmen like me can only drink so much beer.

The beer market, to San Miguel, thus no longer offers the kind of big growth it desires. For one, products like beer and cigarettes are always the target for new taxes. Well, they are the so-called sin products. They are not even related to the Cardinal.

* * *

WHILE the beer business remains as San Miguel's biggest moneymaker, according to UBS Warburg, it cannot provide fast growth. Beer, thus, becomes merely a cash cow. San Miguel then uses the money to buy other businesses.

Acquisition, not beer market expansion, as UBS Warburg puts it, will be San Miguel's growth strategy for this year. It has the cash, anyway, all $1 billion of it.

I mean, no matter how good San Miguel's management may be, I doubt if the company can pay for an acquisition with just saliva. I know it will soon have new directors from the government. Their saliva is just the same as anybody's. Worthless.

In its acquisition, the UBS Warburg report says, San Miguel will mostly likely also go regional. The report said that returns are better in other countries in the region.

It's true, everything seems to be for sale in our country. In San Miguel's line, nevertheless, which is food and beverage, what more big food business is there left for the company to acquire? Well, maybe the Department of Agriculture.

* * *

ISN'T it amazing how, even in business, and not just in politics, a fight can turn ugly? We see it in the row between the Philippine Airlines and Cebu Pacific Air.

PAL is the old one, the original, the pioneer, having been around for more than 60 years now, which makes it only a few years younger than either Kuya Eddie or former Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, who have parted ways since Edsa I.

Cebu Pacific is the new comer, the challenger, and as such, it should only be the more aggressive airline in gaining market share, needing to slash fares to bone, precisely because it has yet no following, no loyal customers.

In other words, the so-called fare war is still purely business for Cebu Pacific. It is a market-getting tool. It has nothing to do with love of country or whatever.

* * *

NOW the fight between PAL and Cebu Pacific involves four new flights between the Philippines and South Korea. Cebu Pacific wants three of the four. PAL wants the two of them just split the flights evenly.

That is the issue. The market is not going o rule on it. Thus, this fare war has no bearing. The ruling will actually come

BREAKTIME/ B5

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Friday, February 22, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	3,000
Banco Filipino Sav & Mort	95	100	95	100	300
Bank of the Phil. Islands	67.5	67.5	66.5	66.5	3,453,800
China Banking Corp.	580	580	580	580	1,000
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,100
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	32	32	31	31	737,300
First E-Bank Corp.	1.9	2.3	1.9	2.3	245,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	214	214	210	211	82,640
Philippine National Bank	69.5	69.5	69.5	69.5	3,000
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13.25	13.5	13.25	13.5	9,000
Security Bank Corp.	19.25	19.25	18.75	19.25	138,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	20.25	20.5	20.25	20.25	181,600
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.4	1.4	1.38	1.38	133,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	70,000
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	20,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	980	1015	980	1010	69,080
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30	30	30	30	11,600
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.7	0.7	0.68	0.69	9,770,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	810	815	800	800	15,690
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.095	0.095	0.0875	0.09	58,200,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3.2	3.2	3	3	30,000
Piltel	0.59	0.6	0.58	0.59	12,370,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	70,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	495	495	485	490	510,960
Ivantage Corp.	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	250,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.023	0.023	0.022	0.023	72,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	32	32	30.5	31.5	808,800
Manila Electric Co. B	49	49	45.5	46	5,228,500
Petron Corp.	1.94	1.96	1.9	1.9	12,784,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	20,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.06	1.06	1.04	1.04	29,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.9	2.95	2.8	2.8	8,330,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35	30,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	4,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.36	540,000
Fortune Cement Corp.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	20,000
Phil Nat'l Const. Corp.	6	6.1	6	6.1	8,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	100,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	10,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	52,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	9,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.25	13.25	13	13.25	79,100
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	23.75	23.75	23.25	23.25	153,200
RFM Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.34	1.34	1,301,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48.5	48.5	48	48	347,400
San Miguel Corp. B	65.5	65.5	62.5	63	681,900
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.68	0.68	0.61	0.61	260,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.66	0.68	0.66	0.66	30,000
Ayala Corp.	6.8	6.8	6.5	6.5	11,082,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.92	1.92	1.88	1.88	950,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	12.25	12.25	12	12	700
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.84	0.84	0.83	0.83	730,000
APC Group Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	320,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.008	50,000,000
Anglo Phil Holdings Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.34	0.34	510,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6	5,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs.	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.25	400,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.9	0.91	0.88	0.9	22,270,000
A Brown Company Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	20,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	90,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.38	0.39	0.37	0.39	680,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.0725	0.0725	0.0725	0.0725	2,500,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.33	3,930,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.14	0.16	0.13	0.13	35,010,000
Fil-Estate Corp.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	20,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.04	1.06	1.04	1.04	920,000
First Phil Hldgs. Corp.	32.5	32.5	32	32	1,818,800
Global Equities Inc.	0.185	0.185	0.18	0.18	2,300,000
House of Investments Inc.	0.36	0.37	0.36	0.37	370,000
Ionics Inc.	8.4	8.4	8.1	8.1	87,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.9	1.92	1.88	1.9	904,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.83	0.85	0.82	0.85	5,940,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	60,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.37	0.39	0.36	0.38	9,180,000
Music Corp.	0.4	0.41	0.38	0.39	9,810,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	540,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	30,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	150,000
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	50,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	20,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Corro-Coat Inc.	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	10,000
Federal Chemicals Inc.	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	20,000
Interphil Labs Inc. A	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	30,000
Interphil Labs Inc. B	1	1	0.95	0.95	64,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.095	0.12	0.095	0.12	200,000
Pryce Corp.	0.105	0.105	0.1	0.1	350,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	82,800
Steniel Manufacturing	0.22	0.26	0.22	0.26	220,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.56	0.56	0.53	0.53	15,500,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	110,000
Manila Jockey Club	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	8,700
Mondragon Intl Phils. Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	300,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	50,000
Philippine Racing Club	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	5,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	30.5	31	30	30.5	1,543,600
DMCI Holdings Inc.-Pref.	775	775	775	775	10
Equitable PCI Bank-War	1.78	1.78	1.76	1.76	24,000
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	790	790	790	790	100
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	300
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,300
Philweb.Com,Inc -Warrants	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	6,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.8	15,800,000
Araneta Properties Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.24	0.25	480,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.31	0.31	0.29	0.3	10,550,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.54	0.54	0.52	0.52	7,100,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.32	11,810,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.38	2.38	2.34	2.34	11,833,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.44	0.45	0.44	0.44	1,590,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	4,000
SM Development Corp.	1.1	1.16	1.1	1.16	160,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.2	7.2	6.9	6.9	8,988,000
Universal Rightfield Prop.	0.0925	0.095	0.09	0.09	3,600,000
Urbancorp Realty Dev. Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	10,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	2,000,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.042	0.043	0.042	0.042	24,000,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.2	0.205	0.2	0.205	950,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.215	0.22	0.215	0.22	6,520,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	9,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	1,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	12,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.29	970,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.31	0.31	0.3	0.3	870,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.021	1,300,000
Interport Res.	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	0.0048	2,000,000
Interport Res. B	0.005	0.005	0.0046	0.0046	6,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	47,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	20,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.24	0.24	0.225	0.225	590,000
Pacifica	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	13,400,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.115	0.115	0.095	0.1	11,510,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.22	60,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	5,148,820	349,299,390.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	369,271,860	902,892,090.00
PRO	71,925,000	210,431,570.00
Mining	57,310,000	3,280,650.00
OIL	101,860,000	2,032,550.00
GRAND TOTALS:	605,525,680	1,467,957,750.00

AVERAGES

Banks & Fin Svc	561.81	DOWN 12.56
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,903.21	DOWN 68.91
PRO	624.88	DOWN 20.96
Mining	1,404.50	UP 3.11
OIL	2.04	DOWN 0.17
All Shares Index	746.99	DOWN 13.70
Composite	1,396.38	DOWN 47.06

NO. OF ADVANCES: 12; NO. OF DECLINES: 86; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 38; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 136; NO. OF TRADES: 5,321

shareXCHANGE
YOUR TRUSTWORTHY CLUB SHARES CONSULTANT
OVER 25 YEARS IN COMBINED CLUB SHARES EXPERIENCE | SEC LIC. #99

Partial list CLUBS	02/22/2002 SELLING AT	Share Swapping: Please Call CLUBS	BUYING AT
CALATAGAN GC "A"	90,000	ALABANG "A"	1,600,000
CANLUBANG GC	665,000	ALABANG "B"	1,700,000
CELEBRITY CLUB	200,000	BAGUIO CC	Call now
LUISITA GC "A"	400,000	CAMP JOHN HAY	250,000
MAKATI SPORTS "A"	250,000	CAPITOL HILLS	115,000
MANILA POLO CLUB	2,700,000	EAGLE RIDGE "A"	300,000
MLA SOUTHWOODS "A"/"B"	70M/ 80M	MANILA POLO	2,500,000
PUERTO AZUL "A"	135,000	MANILA SOUTHWOODS "A"	Call now
PUNTA FUEGO	Call now	MOUNT MALARAYAT "A"	350,000
ORCHARD "A"/"B"	.25M/.35M	ROCKWELL CLUB (CORP)	Call now
RIVIERA GCC "A"	Call now	STA. ELENA "A"	1,700,000
SPLENDIDO	925,000	TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS	820,000
SUBIC BAY YACHT (INDIV)	200,000	TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	730,000
THE COUNTRY CLUB	Call now	WACK-WACK GOLF	6,500,000
WACK WACK GOLF	Call now		

AVAILABLE LESSORS FOR PLAYING RIGHTS

ALABANG CC "A"	25,000	THE COUNTRY CLUB	Call now
CANLUBANG GC	55,000	STA. ELENA "A"	65,000
CC AT TAGAYTAY	20,000	TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	35,000
MANILA GOLF	400,000	WACK WACK	90,000

TERE TABUENA, LYRA, KARRENE, LEIZA, FRANCO DEL ROSARIO
809-8233 / 809-8263 / 850-5870-71 / 0918-9043308
E-mail: clubshar@evoserve.com / Fax: 809-8074

GOLFERS CLUB SHARES, INC.
SEC LICENSE # A 1998-2129
AS OF FEBRUARY 22, 2002

	SELLING	BUYING
1. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "A"	1,700,000	1,600,000
2. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "B"		1,700,000
3. BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	725,000	700,000
4. CALATAGAN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	100,000	80,000
5. CAMP JOHN HAY	300,000	250,000
6. CANLUBANG GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	600,000	
7. CAPITOL HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	125,000	115,000
8. CELEBRITY CLUB	210,000	160,000
9. COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS	380,000	370,000
10. CLUB FILIPINO	210,000	
11. EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	200,000	
12. EAGLERIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	350,000	340,000
13. EVERCREST GOLF CLUB "A"	100,000	
14. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	220,000	
15. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	280,000	
16. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	500,000	
17. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "A"	280,000	250,000
18. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	400,000	
19. MANILA GOLF CLUB (IND.)	12,500,000	11,000,000
20. MANILA POLO CLUB	2,800,000	2,600,000
21. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "A"	650,000	600,000
22. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "B"	750,000	
23. METROPOLITAN CLUB "A"	140,000	
24. METROPOLITAN CLUB "B"	150,000	
25. MT. MALARAYAT GOLF CLUB (IND.)	400,000	330,000
26. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	220,000	200,000
27. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	300,000	250,000
28. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	370,000	
29. QUEZON CITY SPORTS CLUB	220,000	200,000
30. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	200,000	
31. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	260,000	230,000
32. STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "A"	1,700,000	1,500,000
33. SUBIC BAY YACHT CLUB (IND)	250,000	
34. TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS INT'L. GOLF CLUB	850,000	800,000
35. TAGAYTAY MIDLAND	750,000	700,000
36. VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB	170,000	
37. VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	240,000	200,000
38. WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB		6,500,000

ASSIGNMENT OF PLAYING RIGHTS PLS. CALL
JUST S. VIRAY, TRADING MANAGER — PAUL CORTEZ, PRESIDENT
LALA SALAO / LYDIA HASEGAWA / FINAS VIRAY
TEL. NOS. 8175655 / 8121066 / 8193560
7517982 CP#0917-8114892

ang tan golf Club & Shares, Inc.
SEC Licensed Golf & Club Shares Brokers No. 10573
268 Kalentong Street, Mandaluyong City

SELLING:

Alabang A/B	1.7M
Baguio Country Club	725,000
Canlubang Golf	600,000
Canyon Woods	200,000
Celebrity	180,000
Club Filipino	200,000
Eagle Ridge B/C	450/550,000
Fontana ABC	Please call
Fondale D	75,000
Forest Hills A/B/C	230/260/250
Manila Golf (Corp)	12.3M
Manila Polo	2.7M
Manila Southwoods "A"/B	630/750
Makati Sports "A"/B	280/300
Metropolitan "A"	100,000
Mimosa Indiv/C-3	170/300
Mt. Malarayat "A"/B/C	Please call
Orchard "A"/C	225/350
Quezon City Sports	220,000
Riviera "A"/B/C	200/280/400
Royale Tagaytay	80,000
Sta. Elena A	1,750,000
Tagaytay Highland Club	390,000
Valle Verde CC/Corp.	180/320
Wack Wack	7M

BUYING:

Alabang A/B	1.6M/1.7M
Camp John Hay Golf	280,000
Eagle Ridge A	350,000
Forest Hills "A"/B/C	230/250/250
Manila Golf (Indv.)	10.5M
Manila Southwoods "A"/B	630,000
Makati Sports "A"/B	250/250
Metropolitan A/B	100,000
Mimosa Indiv./C3	150,000/250,000
Orchard A/C	220,000
Quezon City Sports	200,000
Riviera A/B	190/250
Rockwell	Please call
Sta Elena A/B	1.7M/1.750M
Sherwood A/B	100,000
Tagaytay H'land Club/Golf	360/650
Tagaytay Midlands Golf	750,000
Valley Golf	230,000
Wack Wack	6.8M

Other shares & playing rights available
Tagaytay Highlands, Lot, Spa, Woodlands, Condo

Connie Ang
Trading Manager/Real Estate Broker
House/Lot: Ayala Alabang 6M, Cosmo 29M, GMeadow 25M, Corinthian 25M, Greenhills 26M, Valleygolf Overlooking 5,000m² P18M only, warehouse/ Condo rental
Tels: (24 Hours)
253-0008 • 256-3188 • 256-6001 • 0919-3577282

FAX REPAIR
AS LOW AS
P300
FREE ESTIMATE
No need to replace your faulty fax, because we can repair it back to perfection-as only the kings can.
KINGS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.
KCS
• M-14 Auro-Vi Plaza, 1685 Evangelista St. Bangkal, Makati City
Tels. 894-2309 / 843-6830 / 843-0662
• Rm.201 Columbian Bldg. 160 West Ave. cor EDSA, Quezon City
Tels. 929-2052 / 929-2054

Panasonic	NEC	SAMSUNG
SANYO	[illegible]	[illegible]
MURATA	SHARP	OKI
NISSEI	Canon	OTHERS

CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 10% DISCOUNT
We also repair Computers

GG & A Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of February 26, 2002

www.ggaclubshares.com

CLUB	BUYER	SELLER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,650,000	Please Call
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	1,650,000	Please Call
Baguio Country Club	700,000	750,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	70,000	90,000
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	-	100,000
Camp John Hay	Please Call	280,000
Canlubang	550,000	650,000
Canyonwoods	Please Call	330,000
Capitol Hills	125,000	135,000
Cebu Country Club	1,800,000	2,000,000
Celebrity Sports Club	-	200,000
Eagle Ridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	Please Call
Eastridge "A"	Please Call	Please Call
Evercrest "A"	-	100,000
Forest Hills "A"	200,000	230,000
Forest Hills "B"	-	280,000
Forest Hills "C"	270,000	300,000
Makati Sports Club "A"	250,000	260,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	300,000	375,000
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	Please Call
Manila Golf (Individual)	10,000,000	12,500,000
Manila Polo	2,600,000	2,700,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	600,000	650,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	650,000	700,000
Metropolitan Club "B"	-	150,000
Montemar (Individual)	-	30,000
Mt. Malarayat	-	Please Call
Orchard Golf Club "A"	200,000	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	250,000	300,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	350,000	500,000
Philippine Columbian	-	85,000
Pueblo de Oro "A"/"B"/"C"	-	Please Call
Puerto Azul	-	125,000
Quezon City Sports Club	200,000	230,000
Riviera Golf & Country Club "A"	-	Please Call
Rockwell	Please Call	550,000
Sherwood Hills "A"	100,000	150,000
Sta. Elena "A"	1,700,000	1,900,000
Sta. Elena "B"	1,800,000	Please Call
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	-	330,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	-	160,000
Tagaytay Country Club	360,000	390,000
Tagaytay Highlands	840,000	Please Call
Tagaytay Midlands	730,000	800,000
The Country Club	Please Call	Please Call
Valle Verde (Individual)	-	170,000
Valley Golf	220,000	240,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	6,500,000	Please Call

PLAYING RIGHTS
(Available Lessors)

Alabang "A"	25,000	Mimosa Golf	25,000
Calatagan "A"	10,000	Orchard "A"	30,000
Canlubang	60,000	Riviera "A"	15,000
Eagleridge	15,000	Sta. Elena	60,000
Eastridge "A"	20,000	Tagaytay CC	20,000
Forest Hills	30,000	Tagaytay Golf	45,000
Manila Southwoods	20,000	Tagaytay Mid.	35,000
Makati Sports "A"	25,000	Valley Golf	20,000
Manila Golf	300,000	Wack-Wack	90,000

For more information, please call:
ALABANG Tel # 850-8223 • Fax # 772-1817
MAKATI Tel # 840-1761 • Fax # 894-3021 / 750-7894

GET OUR LATEST CLUB SHARE QUOTES USING YOUR MOBILE PHONE!
To request for instructions on how to use this service, simply send the TEXT message:
GGA HELP
to 2333 for GLOBE Handyphone subscribers
or 288 for Smart Gold & Buddy subscribers
Note: Globe and Smart Zed rates apply for every successfully sent message. P2.00 for post-paid subscribers. P2.50 for pre-paid subscribers
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg., Sen Gil Puyat cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
E-mail at: ggashare@mozcom.com
Visit us at our website: http://www.ggaclubshares.com
Valet Parking Available
Call us now at our Hotline: 751-GOLF(4653)

G & W clubshares
SEC License Broker No.: A-17597
As of February 26, 2002

CLUB	SELLER	BUYER
Alabang Country Club "A"	-	1,800,000
Alabang Country Club "B"	1,800,000	1,650,000
Alta Vista	-	260,000
Baguio Country Club	740,000	650,000
Camp John Hay	300,000	250,000
Capitol Hills Golf & CC	130,000	115,000
Calatagan Golf	90,000	-
Canyon Woods	200,000	190,000
Canlubang	650,000	-
Celebrity Sports	230,000	170,000
City Sports Club	-	Pls. Call
Eagleridge "A"	-	330,000
Eastridge	200,000	-
Evercrest	100,000	90,000
Fairways & Blue Waters	650,000	-
Fontana D/C	90,000/140,000	Pls. Call
Forest Hills "A"	230,000	200,000
Forest Hills "C"	300,000	-
Luisita Golf	-	300,000
Manila Polo	-	2,600,000
Manila Golf	11,000,000	-
Makati Sports Club	300,000	250,000
Manila Southwoods "A"	700,000	620,000
Mimosa Golf	170,000	120,000
Mt. Malarayat	350,000	-
Orchard	230,000	200,000
Orchard "B"	-	250,000
Phil. Columbian	80,000	60,000
Punta Fuego	600,000	500,000
Puerto Azul	170,000	-
Quezon City Sports Club	240,000	200,000
Riviera Golf "A"	200,000	190,000
Riviera Golf "B"	250,000	-
Rockwell	400,000	360,000
Royale Tagaytay A/C	90,000/140,000	Pls. Call
Sherwoods	120,000	-
Subic Bay Yacht Club "Corp"	400,000	Pls. Call
Subic Golf	180,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	-	370,000
Tagaytay Highlands Golf & CC	-	850,000
Tagaytay Midlands	-	750,000
Valley Golf & CC	-	200,000
Valle Verde (Indv.)	175,000	180,000

FREE PLAYING RIGHTS AVAILABLE — Looking For Forest Hills Inactive Share
TL 6836309/Tel. No. 6359918/6359830/(0919)7041848
Mon. - Fri., 9:00 am - 6:00 pm Sat 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Unit 1407 Medical Plaza Ortigas, San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

FRANCISCO V. DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.
OUR 20th Year
YOUR TRUSTED SPECIALIST BROKER SINCE 1982 • SEC License #2115
BUY/SELL COUNTRY CLUB SHARES
AS OF FEBRUARY 22, 2002

	ASKED PRICE	BID PRICE
1 ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "A"	-	1,500,000.00
2 ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "B"	-	1,600,000.00
3 CANLUBANG GOLF CLUB	750,000.00	550,000.00
4 CAPITOL HILLS GOLF CLUB	-	110,000.00
5 CELEBRITY SPORTS CLUB	190,000.00	-
6 COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY	-	360,000.00
7. CLUB FILIPINO	220,000.00	-
8 EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB	200,000.00	-
9 FONTANA "A"	-	90,000.00
10. FONTANA "C"	150,000.00	-
11. FOREST HILLS GOLF CLUB "A"	-	200,000.00
12. FOREST HILLS GOLF CLUB "B"	-	250,000.00
13 MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "A"	250,000.00	-
14 MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	300,000.00	250,000.00
15 MANILA POLO CLUB	2,500,000.00	-
16 MANILA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB (Corporate)	-	11,000,000.00
17 MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "A"	650,000.00	-
18 MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "B"	-	700,000.00
19 MIMOSA	-	130,000.00
20 MT. MALARAYAT "B"	400,000.00	-
21 MONTEMAR BEACH CLUB	30,000.00	-
22 PUERTO AZUL BEACH CLUB	110,000.00	-
23 PHILIPPINE COLUMBIAN ASSOCIATION	80,000.00	-
24 ROYALE TAGAYTAY	80,000.00	-
25 ROCKWELL	550,000.00	-
26 RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "A"	220,000.00	-
27 RIVIERA GOLF CLUB "B"	250,000.00	-
28 STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB	-	1,750,000.00
29 SHERWOOD HILLS "C"	-	200,000.00
30 TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS INT'L. GOLF CLUB	-	800,000.00
31 TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS GOLF CLUB	-	730,000.00
32 VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB	170,000.00	-
33 VALLEY GOLF CLUB	-	220,000.00
34 VERDEMAR GOLF CLUB, INC (CEBU)	Pleasecall	-
35 WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	7,500,000.00	6,500,000.00
36 THE COUNTRY CLUB	4,000,000.00	-
37. OTHERS	Pleasecall	-

PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE

ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB	P30,000.00	STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB	60,000.00
CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB	free rental	TAGAYTAY GOLF CLUB	40,000.00
COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY	30,000.00	VALLEY GOLF CLUB	16,000.00
MAKATI SPORTS CLUB	20,000.00	WACK WACK GOLF CLUB	80,000.00
MANILA SOUTHWOODS	30,000.00	ORCHARD GOLF CLUB	20,000.00
		OTHERS	Pleasecall

AMELIA B. MAGAT
Asst. Treas. / Comptroller
or call
ROMEO M. RIBAÑO / SHIONEL PIGA / REYNALDO CUEVAS
Ground Floor, Tuscan Building, 114 Herrera Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tels: 818-6991 • 818-6938 • 818-6948 Fax: 818-5453
E-mail address: fvdrh@info.com.ph

GSIS eyes $600-M deal with US firms

By Clarissa S. Batino

STATE-OWNED Government Service Insurance System is working on a joint venture with US firms Cerberus Ltd. and Lehman Brothers to put up a giant asset management company with an initial fund of $600 million.

GSIS president and general manager Winston Garcia said in an interview that the two American financial groups had expressed keen interest to invest in the start-up venture initiated by the public pension fund called the Philippine Growth and Recovery Fund Inc.

Garcia said the pension fund would put in $200 million worth of its non-performing loans and assets to the venture while Cerberus and Lehman were willing to put in $200 million each in equity.

The plan, he said, was to set up the giant AMC within the first half of the year and the tentative timetable was to launch the venture in May during the anniversary of the government pension firm.

"We are talking with Cerberus and Lehman and they are willing to invest $200 million each in the Philippine Growth and Recovery Fund that we have started to spin off," the GSIS chief said.

Cerberus and Lehman had committed to invest at least $1 billion each to buy the bad loans of local banks totaling more than P280 billion and to help dispose of the government's more than P100 billion worth of housing mortgages.

The Philippine Growth and Recovery Fund, he explained, would act like an AMC and buy the bad loans and assets of locally operating banks.

The Fund was drawn up last year even before Cerberus and Lehman, the first two US firms to signify interest in an AMC investment in the Philippines, had committed to put their money.

"We put up the venture so there would be a vehicle to help move forward the government's plans of helping the banking system dispose of its bad loans as well as distressed companies recover," Garcia said.

But more than an AMC, the venture would also put up a fund to help the government dispose of its home mortgages as well as an industry rationalization fund to help assist companies that are distressed but with huge recovery potentials.

The AMC would also put up a fund for farmers' trust and also invest in new projects particularly in areas like information technology, health and education.

Garcia said Cerberus would conduct its due diligence on the GSIS' assets in the next two weeks while Lehman would follow suit. He stressed, however, that the plan has yet to be approved by the board of the GSIS.

He said that $200 million worth of soured loans and assets that the GSIS would put into the venture had been computed at a discounted rate.

"But we expect to recover the cost because we would participate in the profits," he noted.

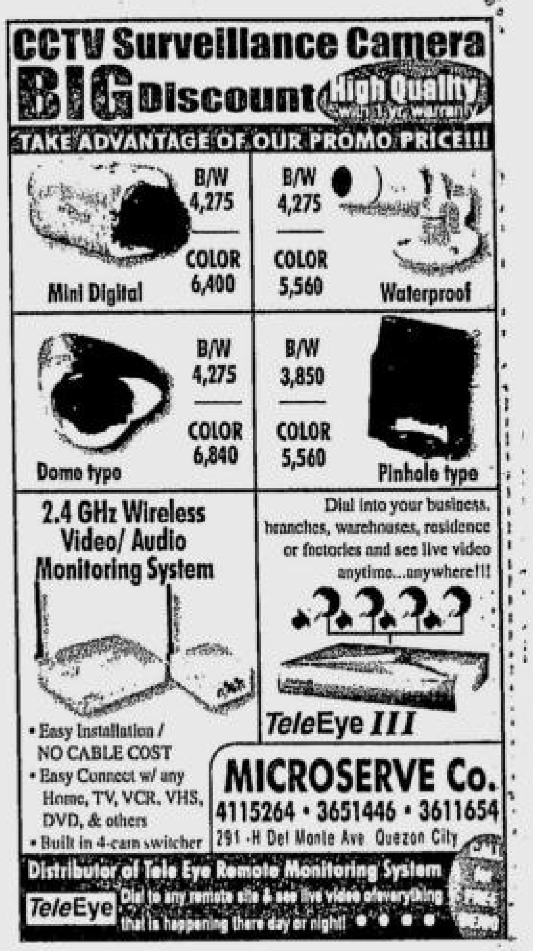
The GSIS chief said the venture would continue to be open to other parties from the government or the private sector.

Cerberus, in a memorandum of agreement with the government, had vowed to put in $500 million to help banks sell their soured loans and another $500 million to assist the government in disposing of the housing mortgages.

Lehman, for its part, also committed to infuse at least $1 billion in the Philippines. It has already signed an agreement to buy P15 billion of the Metrobank Group's more than P30 billion in non-performing loans.

Lehman is said to be talking with Land Bank of the Philippines, Equitable PCI Bank, and Philippine National Bank on the purchase of their bad loans.

A SEMINAR ON
INVESTING IN REAL ESTATE
March 2- WHAT TO LEARN BEFORE INVESTING
A 4-hour seminar and general introduction to all the basic knowledge that is essential to a profitable and successful real estate investment.
March 9-OPPORTUNITIES & TECHNIQUES
URBAN INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE
For details, call 681-0928 or email: urbanet@pacific.net.ph


CCTV Surveillance Camera
BIG Discount High Quality with 1 yr. warranty
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR PROMO PRICE!!!
Mini Digital B/W 4,275 COLOR 6,400
Waterproof B/W 4,275 COLOR 5,560
Dome type B/W 4,275 COLOR 6,840
Pinhole type B/W 3,850 COLOR 5,560
2.4 GHz Wireless Video/ Audio Monitoring System
• Easy Installation / NO CABLE COST
• Easy Connect w/ any Home, TV, VCR, VHS, DVD, & others
• Built in 4-cam switcher
Dial into your business, branches, warehouses, residence or factories and see live video anytime...anywhere!!!
TeleEye III
MICROSERVE Co.
4115264 • 3651446 • 3611654
291 -H Del Monte Ave Quezon City
Distributor of Tele Eye Remote Monitoring System
TeleEye Dial to any remote site & see live video of everything that is happening there day or night!

2 non-broker candidates face disqualification in PSE polls

By Doris C. Dumlao

OUSTED bourse president Ramon Garcia and former finance secretary Vicente Jayme are facing possible disqualification as non-broker candidates to the 15-member Philippine Stock Exchange board that will be elected this March 9.

INQUIRER sources said the five-member nomination committee appointed by the outgoing PSE board wanted the two, who are both running under the slate of veteran broker Robert Coyuito, out of the race despite both of them having already served as non-broker governors during the past two years.

One of the reasons expected to be cited by some members of the committee, which would meet today to screen the nominees, was that Garcia and Jayme have sons who are working for stock brokerage houses in the PSE.

When Garcia accepted the post of PSE president in May 2000, he sold his shares in brokerage RTG & Co. to the new nominee, Milwida Salvachera, but his son, Jose, was retained as president.

On the other hand, Jayme's son, Vicente Jr., is the nominee of Highlands Securities even though Jayme himself does not own any share in the company.

Other sources said the reasons being cited were arbitrary and would likely stir another controversy in the exchange, specially since Garcia, who was unceremoniously dismissed by the outgoing board, still enjoyed popular support among brokers.

Another reason that could be cited against Garcia, the sources said, was that the Securities and Exchange Commission had asked the nomination committee to observe a two-year rule, which means that persons who had been involved in a stock brokerage during the last two years could not run.

In this case, Garcia is 50 days shy of the two-year period, which, however, was earlier waved when he was appointed president of the bourse.

Some brokers feel that the nomination committee was looking for a convenient excuse to exclude the two, specially the controversial Garcia, from the race.

"The board always wanted (Garcia) out," Eagle Equities president Joseph Roxas said.

Other PSE sources said that if the nomination committee were to disqualify Garcia and Jayme on grounds of affiliation with brokers, then non-broker reelectionists Mario Camacho and ABS CBN chair Eugenio Lopez III would also be disqualified.

The sources said that Camacho is vice chair of PCCI (Philippine Commercial Corp. Inc.), which owns PCCI Securities Brokers Corp., while the Lopezes indirectly own and control PCCI through nominee Manuel Lopez.

良優
品の
AJI ICHIBAN
The No. 1 Asian Snack Food Store
now Open for Franchising
For inquiries:
Tel No: 633-8455
Email: ajiichiban_phil@yahoo.com

Metro Pacific . . .

Frompage B1

"The sale of BLC will remain an option but MPC is now going to focus on keeping the value of assets. There are key creditors who can be convinced to hold on with MPC and discount its long-term value," one of the sources said.

"These key creditors understand the value of the investments. The valuation of the shares held in BLC and subsidiaries do not impact on the value of the land," the source said.

In preparation for the proposed financial restructuring and in view of the difficulty of raising fresh funds from the sale of the stake in BLC, the source said the company had already put up provisions for its assets.

"MPC has been cleaning up its books and writing off the value of the carrying costs of investments in FBDC and BLC," the source said.

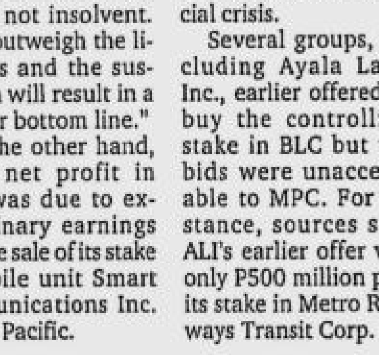
The source estimated that MPC incurred up to P24 billion in net losses last year, but only about P4 billion of which was incurred from operations. The rest, it was explained, was due to asset provisioning.

"The asset provisioning is positive because it brings the valuation of assets in the MPC level and its subsidiaries more in line with the market," the source said. "Also, MPC is not insolvent. Assets outweigh the liabilities and the suspension will result in a stronger bottom line."

On the other hand, MPC's net profit in 2000 was due to extraordinary earnings from the sale of its stake in mobile unit Smart Communications Inc. to First Pacific.

The development of the Fort Bonifacio Global City has been hit hard by a property slump precipitated by the 1997 Asian financial crisis.

Several groups, including Ayala Land Inc., earlier offered to buy the controlling stake in BLC but the bids were unacceptable to MPC. For instance, sources said ALI's earlier offer was only P500 million plus its stake in Metro Railways Transit Corp.


Masaya ka ba sa iyong trabaho?

There's a career in here.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB MARKET
www.inquirer.net/jobmarket

Can't use it?
We'll fix it!
JUST CALL US! WE'LL FIX IT IN A FLASH!
Fax machines • Computers / Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone System Sets • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipment
EPSON SHARP OKI XEROX SANYO TOSHIBA SAMSUNG brother muratec Canon Panasonic
CITIWORLD BUSINESS MACHINES SERVICES CORP.
Rm. 109 David I Bldg. 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-6823 / 723-4694
Makati Office: 3A, Trans-Phil House 117 Chino Roces Ave. Corner Bagtikan St., Makati City Tel: Nos.: 895-1435 / 896-6032

Be the Business Leader you were meant to be -- with AIM's MBM Program.

Become an exceptionally effective Business Leader with the Asian Institute of Management's **Master in Business Management** Program.

Designed to nurture skills in management, leadership, teamwork, negotiation, and communication, the AIM MBM Program is facilitated by a practitioner-oriented faculty composed of recognized leaders in their own fields.

Come to the **Open House**, Thursday, **March 21, 2002**, 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Experience what it's like to be an AIM MBM student. Dialogue with the faculty and sign up for a case discussion.

Enrollment July 8-10, 2002
Classes start July 15, 2002

Christopher Gotanco, MBM '73
President/COO
Anglo-Philippine Oil & Mining Corp.

Margarita M. Bulahan, MBM '91
President
The Whimsical Wagon Company

Albar G. Kato, MBM '99
President
Albar Shipping and Trading Corporation

Carmencita L. Aragon, MBM '90
President
Asian Business Solutions, Inc.

25 SCHOLARSHIPS available this schoolyear

Direct your future with...
ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT MBM Master in Business Management
To access an Application Form or to know more about AIM's MBM Program,
Call (02) 860-1455
Visit http://www.aim.edu.ph Email webco@aim.edu.ph
123 Paseo de Roxas, 1260 Makati City, Philippines MCPO Box 2095, Makati City, Philippines
PDI 022602

New investor group eyed for Luzon railway project

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE MACAPAGAL administration is planning to get a new investor group to revive the oft-delayed plan to build the North Luzon rapid railway transit (Northrail) project.

Renato V. Diaz, presidential assistant for regional development in North Luzon, said the government would hold an auction for the Northrail project this year to get the best offer from prospective investors.

"We'll be asking for BOT (build-operate-and-transfer) proposals or other variations. We're going to start from zero in this project," Diaz said.

Diaz said the government decided to seek new investors after the exclusivity agreement of the previous proponents led by the Spanish railway group had expired. The project has been on the drawing board since the mid-1990s but it has not gone beyond the planning stage due to the proponent's funding problems and the government's failure to clear the railway's route.

Diaz expressed confidence that the project would finally get on track as a number of investors from the United States, Canada, Japan, China and Belgium have already expressed keen interest in building Northrail.

Based on initial plans, Diaz said the Northrail project would be built in 2 phases—from Monumento in Caloocan to the Clark airbase in Pampanga; and from Clark to La Union. He said Northrail would follow the old Northern Luzon line of the Philippine National Railways which had been abandoned for decades.

Diaz said the strong interest by foreign investor groups should ensure financing for the project. "Our preference is for investors that will present a BOT package which includes funding from soft loans," Diaz said.

He said closer cooperation by government agencies—from the Bases Conversion Development Authority (which is the lead agency for the project) to the local government units that would facilitate the relocation of their residents in the affected areas—would help clear out the areas for development. "We have already identified a relocation site in Bulacan for the displaced residents," Diaz said.

He said the Northrail was an integral component of the government's North Luzon development plan because it would provide cheaper, faster and cleaner (electric-driven) transport system which would encourage a wider dispersal of population. "People from North Luzon can now work in Metro Manila and still go home to their hometown," Diaz said.

RP GETS GERMAN FUNDING

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho and Transportation Secretary Pantaleon Alvarez sign with Dr. Hans Mussig, first vice president for East and the Pacific of Germany's Kreditanstalt, the loan agreements of 21.372 million euros for the aids to navigation program of the DOTC, and 7.39 million euros for the dual education and training project of Tesda. Witnessing the ceremony are Tesda director general Teresita S. Lazo and German Ambassador Herbert Jess.

Designed for Choose freedom.

Mobile Net WorkStyle

Satellite 1800-A310
- Intel® Pentium® III processor 850MHz
- 13.3" TFT XGA
- 64MB SDRAM, expandable to 512MB
- Built-in modem and Ethernet
- 20.0GB Hard Disk Drive
- 24X CD-ROM drive & FDD
- Microsoft® Windows® Millennium Edition

P77,000

No. 1 hassle-free choice MULTIMEDIA made easy

All-In-One Value notebooks

Satellite 1800-A311
- Intel® Pentium® III processor 1.0GHz
- 13.3" TFT XGA
- 128MB PC100 SDRAM (max. 512MB)
- 20.0GB Hard Disk Drive
- Built-in 24X CD-ROM & FDD
- 56K modem & 10/100Mbps LAN
- 16MB Video Memory (UMA)
- TouchPad with scroll function
- Integrated NTSC/PAL TV-out port
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home Edition

P88,000

Satellite 1800-A330
- Intel® Pentium® III processor 1.0GHz
- 13.3" TFT XGA
- 128MB PC100 SDRAM (max. 512MB)
- 20.0GB Hard Disk Drive
- Built-in 8X/4X CDRW & FDD
- 56K modem & 10/100Mbps LAN
- 16MB Video Memory (UMA)
- TouchPad with scroll function
- Integrated NTSC/PAL TV-out port
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home Edition

P99,000

Satellite 1800-A421
- Intel® Pentium® III processor 1.10GHz
- 14.1" TFT XGA
- 128MB PC100 SDRAM (max. 512MB)
- 20.0GB Hard Disk Drive
- Built-in 8X DVD Rom + FDD
- 56K modem & 10/100Mbps LAN
- 16MB Video Memory (UMA)
- TouchPad with scroll function
- Integrated NTSC/PAL TV-out port
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home Edition

P115,000

B5-size Thin & Light ultraportable

Satellite 31DVD/CDRW
- Mobile Intel® Pentium® III processor 700MHz featuring Intel® SpeedStep™ technology
- 12.1" TFT XGA display
- 128MB SDRAM, expandable to 256MB
- 56K Modem & 10/100 Mbps LAN
- 20.0GB Hard Disk Drive
- 8X DVD-ROM/8X/4X CDRW
- Microsoft® Windows® Millennium Edition

NEW!

P105,000/P110,000

NEW!

Modular design 2.4kg, nVidia graphic card with 16MB DDR Video Memory, Built-in SmartMedia™ slot

Thin & Light Full-Size Notebook

Satellite 3000-A441
- Mobile Intel® Pentium® III processor 1.13GHz - M supporting Enhanced Intel® SpeedStep™ Technology
- 128MB PC133 SDRAM, expandable to 1,024MB
- 14.1" TFT XGA, 16MB DDR VRAM
- 20.0GB Hard Disk Drive
- Modular Bay CDRW/DVD combo
- 56K Modem & 10/100 Mbps LAN
- TouchPad with Scroll function
- Built-in i.LINK (IEEE 1394) port
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home Edition

P150,000

Toshiba PCs use genuine Microsoft® Windows®
www.microsoft.com/piracy/howtotell

Featured models come with 1-year international limited warranty and carrying case, unless otherwise stated.

TOSHIBA

TRICOM DYNAMICS, INC.

MAKATI : Metro House Bldg., 345 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. Tels. 890-6525 to 32 Fax: 890-0698 • CEBU : 2/F Machay Bldg., 30 Gorordo Ave. Tels. 253-6517; 233-7786; 232-6391 Fax: 231-0681 • DAVAO : G/F LKT Bldg., R. Castillo St., Agdao Tels. 227-4137 to 38 Fax: 227-4147 • CAGAYAN DE ORO : Moreno Bldg., Gusa Highway Tels. 22-733-158; 856-5386 Fax: 22-733-273

Authorized Dealers:
• ELECTROWORLD NEW FARMERS PLAZA: 9111494; 9111099 • PARK SQUARE 1: 8132776; 8123880; 8123868 • SM CITY: 9279525; 9240014 • SM CITY FAIRVIEW: 4168064; 4186061 • SM CITY MANILA: 5247980 • SM MEGAMALL BRANCH: 6331624 to 25 • SOUTHMALL: 8000404; 8000408 • WALTER MART MAKATI BRANCH: 8929119 & 8440598 • COMPLINK MARKETING, INC. ROBINSON'S GALLERIA: 6329698 to 97; 6387048 • SM CITY NORTH EDSA: 9209140/41; 9292857 • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA: 6374444 to 45 • SM CITY MANILA: 4005632; 4005633 • AIRPORT CITIMALL: 5129708 to 09 • SM CITY BACOOR: (046) 4177701 to 63 • THE BRAIN COMPUTER CORP. SAN JUAN: 7247629; 7271824; 7256427; 7210953 • SILICON VALLEY ALABANG: 8078987 • PARK SQUARE: 8128734 • MANILA: 5253218 • MEGAMALL: 6331724 • STA LUCIA: 6468538 • SOUTHMALL: 8069595 • NORTH EDSA: 9276832 • HARRISON: 5257731 • BACOOR: (46) 4177881 • PAMPANGA: (45) 9612225 • ARX COMPUTER CENTRE ROBINSON'S GALLERIA: 6320991; 6320579 • SHANGRI-LA PLAZA 6360068 to 69 • SM CITY SUCAT: 6203694; 8208971

Authorized Corporate Resellers:
F. A.T. KEE SAN JUAN. 7273771 to 74 • MICROGENESIS BUSINESS SYSTEMS: 8930284; 8924447; 8924449; 8924451; 8930584; 8830551; 890552; 8930554; 8930519 • MICROPHASE ENTERPRISE CO.: 7500827 to 38; 8128814 • ZENSHIN SYSTEMS CORP.: 3850536; 3889395 • COMPULAB TECHNOLOGY CORP.: 7514803 to 04

Prices inclusive of 10% VAT and are FOB Manila. Price, design and specifications subject to change without notice. Toshiba will not be liable for editorial, pictorial, typographical errors in this advertisement. Intel, the Intel Inside logo, Pentium and Intel SpeedStep are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Microsoft and Windows are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation.

intel inside pentium®III

pc.toshiba-asia.com

Gov't readies spot market for electricity

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy is stepping up preparations for the establishment of a wholesale electricity spot market to secure the release of a $100-million loan from the Asian Development Bank.

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. said last Friday the government was in talks with the Manila-based multilateral lender on the release of the fund.

The amount is the final tranche of a $300-million program loan that the ADB granted in 1998.

"We met recently with ADB officials and they were quite pleased in general with (how the government is pushing reforms in the power industry)," Perez said.

The secretary noted that the establishment of the WESM was key among several conditions for the release of the third installment of the loan. He did not give more details.

Persons familiar with the matter explained that the WESM would be an exchange where power supply not covered by contracts would be traded.

Perez said the energy department would next focus on the WESM rules once the implementing rules of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act had been published.

He said, however, that the department had been busy doing consultations on rules with industry players, consumers and other interested parties.

"The law gives us until June 30 to establish the WESM," Perez said. "But I want to be ahead because there's a lot to do."

According to an ADB document, the loan was meant to assist the government in shouldering the adjustment costs of power reforms.

These costs include National Power Corp.'s excess debt, the above-market cost of its contracts with independent power producers and the cost of downsizing its workforce.

The loan was divided into three $100-million tranches, the release of which coincided with the time the adjustment costs were incurred.

The first tranche was released in December 1998 following compliance with 13 conditions.

The second tranche was release last month after the fulfillment of eight conditions. It was originally slated for release in June 1999.

The third tranche is scheduled for release in the third quarter of this year.

Study clears gov't in PEACe bond row

THE GOVERNMENT did not lose a single centavo when it sold, through a public auction, some P35 billion worth of 10-year zero-coupon bonds, also known as "PEACe bonds," according to the Foundation for Economic Freedom.

In a paper, the FEF said Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.—the buyer—"bore the cost of the P1.8-billion windfall" that a network of non-government organizations earned for helping arrange the transaction, not the Department of Finance or the Bureau of Treasury.

It said RCBC, which tendered the lowest bid among several proposals, suffered "an inordinately low yield on (the) instrument when (it) bought the bonds on a secondary basis" from CODE-NGO.

"Whether this resulted from philanthropy and social spirit, miscalculation or contractual constraints that required RCBC to provide fees to CODE-NGO even in a transparently bidded auction where they would have been entitled to participate anyhow, or a combination of the above, is a private matter," the FEF said.

The Treasury sold the bonds—essentially documents of government indebtedness—through a public auction in October last year with a face value of P35 billion to RCBC, which was then acting in behalf of CODE-NGO.

The government will receive only P10.2 billion in cash. At a "yield" of 12.75 percent a year, RCBC and CODE-NGO expect to chalk up as much as P24.8 billion for lending to the government over a 10-year period.

Later, however, CODE-NGO decided to re-sell its bonds to RCBC Capital Corp. RCBC Capital charged CODE-NGO a lower rate of 11 percent. RCBC Capital extended to CODE-NGO P12 billion in cash, giving CODE-NGO a gross profit of P1.8 billion out of the transaction. The group had been hoping to raise this much money to finance its poverty-alleviation projects, hence it referred to the zero-coupon bonds as "PEACe bonds."

Critics have accused RCBC of substituting the PEACe bonds for the short-term, reserve-eligible treasury bills that yielded about 8 percent in October last year. The bank, they claimed, gained from the differential between the yield of the PEACe bonds and the short-term treasury bills.

CURRENCIES

Feb. 22, 2002 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.149293	1.000000	51.3030
Japan	Yen	0.008562	0.007450	0.3822
United Kingdom	Pound	1.639237	1.426300	73.1735
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.147535	0.128370	6.5858
Switzerland	Franc	0.676015	0.588201	30.1765
Canada	Dollar	0.722735	0.628852	32.2620
Singapore	Dollar	0.628029	0.546448	28.0344
Australia	Dollar	0.593336	0.516262	26.4858
Bahrain	Dinar	3.048685	2.652661	136.0895
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.306479	0.266667	13.6808
Brunei	Dollar	0.626967	0.545524	27.9870
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000113	0.000098	0.0050
Thailand	Baht	0.026234	0.022826	1.1710
UAE	Dirham	0.312988	0.272331	13.9714
Korea	Won	0.000878	0.000764	0.0392
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.870100	44.6387
Brazil	Real	0.474914	0.413223	21.1996
Denmark	Kroner	0.134420	0.116959	6.0003
India	Rupee	0.023697	0.020619	1.0578
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.302446	0.263158	13.5008
Mexico	New Peso	0.126505	0.110072	5.6470
New Zealand	Dollar	0.480675	0.418235	21.4567
Norway	Kroner	0.129044	0.112281	5.7604
Pakistan	Rupee	0.019186	0.016694	0.8565
South Africa	Rand	0.100903	0.087796	4.5042
Sweden	Kroner	0.109300	0.095102	4.8790
Syria	Pound	0.022535	0.019608	1.0059
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.032836	0.028571	1.4658
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.001183	0.001029	0.0528

14 groups offer to handle $1B worth of gov't borrowings

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE GOVERNMENT has received last week underwriting offers from 14 foreign investment groups for some $1 billion worth of long-term borrowings from the global market in the coming weeks.

A source said the government would keep half of the proceeds of the planned borrowings to help complete its $1.5-billion foreign funding requirement this year while the other half would be relent to the National Power Corp.

The bidding for the underwriting deal was held last Thursday and the government said it would immediately evaluate all the offers.

A source said the government would bid out a seven-year, $500 million worth of borrowings from the global market for Napocor and another $500 million for the national coffers.

The source said there was a plan to reopen the government's existing 20-year borrowing from the Yankee market. Part of the $800 million that the government borrowed in March 2000 will mature in 20 years and this window may be reopened for a 17-year maturity.

National Treasurer Sergio Edeza refused to confirm the extent of the planned borrowings but said that the government had received several proposals.

He also said the government would prefer to tap the 7-year, 10-year or the 20-year bond market.

"The deal, if there will be any, will most likely be for Napocor. We will use our available registration in the US market to issue the bonds," he said.

Edeza noted that one factor to consider in this fund-raising activity would be the timing of the issue since Malaysia has also announced plans to also tap the Yankee bond market to raise between $500 and $1 billion in the next three weeks.

First e-Bank expects ₱2-B infusion

FIRST e-Bank, a thrift bank controlled by the Metro Pacific Corp., is considering a merger with another bank that, together with existing shareholders, had agreed to infuse P2.3 billion into the bank.

The fresh infusion into the publicly listed thrift bank, formerly known as PDCP Bank, will come in the form of cash and real estate assets, said a source from the central bank.

"There is an option for a merger," said the source. The source refused to identify the prospective investor in First e-bank. However, another source said it was Bank of Commerce.

Bank of commerce president Raul de Mesa, for his part, confirmed that his bank has been negotiating with First e-Bank for capital infusion "but the talks are still in preliminary stage."

Its status as a listed company and its electronic banking capability are considered among the factors that enhanced First e-Bank's marketability.

"Since the bank is publicly-listed, future owners can readily tap the stock market for additional capital," said another source.

First e-Bank is among the assets that Metro Pacific is keen on selling.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has been encouraging local banks to merge or consolidate to help strengthen the banking system.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said the central bank would also like to see more foreign players acquiring stakes in local banks while the moratorium on the establishment of new banks and the extension of branch licenses remains in place.

The General Banking Law of 2000 provides for a two-year ban on the granting of new licenses, effectively extending the moratorium that the central bank imposed earlier.

Last year, American Express acquired Omni Bank while ABN-Amro bought TA Bank.

In year 2000, HSBC bought PCI Savings Bank to expand its retail banking business. Citibank N.A. is also planning to venture into retail banking and is reportedly scouting for a potential acquisition. *Clarissa S. Batino, with a report from Elena R. Torrijos*

Manila, Taipei settle double taxation row

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE PHILIPPINES and Taiwan have finally resolved their differences over the double taxation problems faced by Taiwanese investors operating in the country.

Manila Economic and Cultural Office (Meco) chair and chief executive officer Antonio Basilio said the Department of Finance had agreed to a single taxation policy, which would require Taiwanese investors to pay their taxes here on income generated by their operations in the country. Basilio said that Taiwanese investor would no longer have to pay a separate tax to the Taiwanese government.

The DoF earlier opposed a single taxation policy between Taiwan and the Philippines because the Taiwanese government had insisted on collecting the taxes from Taiwanese investors here.

Basilio said the new agreement, however, would be made in favor of the Philippines so that the arrangement would not impact on the Macapagal administration's budget.

The Philippines is one of the few remaining countries in Asean that has not solved the double taxation issue and this has been one of the reasons why it has lagged behind its neighbors in getting a share of the Taiwanese investments.

Basilio said the resolution of the double taxation issue should boost government efforts to generate up to $1 billion in foreign direct investments (FDI) from Taiwan over the next three years as it steps up its investment promotion efforts through networking with Taiwanese industry groups and creation of special teams.

The projected capital inflows should boost the country's share of Taiwan's $200 million annual FDIs to Asean from 9 percent to between 15 percent and 20 percent.

The Philippines currently has the smallest share of the Taiwanese FDIs among key Asean countries behind Malaysia (27 percent), Singapore (19 percent), Thailand (18 percent), Vietnam (16 percent), and Indonesia (11 percent).

Basilio said Taiwanese investors remained keen on diversifying their overseas investments. He cited computer giant Acer, which has factories in both China and the Philippines.

Even though China is pulling in $2 billion in Taiwanese investments yearly, Basilio said the Philippines could still get a bigger share of the investment pie because of the country's advantages in integrated circuit design software development and customer service.

DO business better.
KNOW the rewards of balancing profits and environmental care and social responsibility.
EXPERIENCE these rewards with an Environmental Management System (EMS) based on ISO 14001.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES
BUREAU OF PRODUCT STANDARDS

PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROFESSIONALS

"IMPLEMENTING ISO 14001"
A Programme for Businesses Seeking to Implement an EMS according to ISO 14001

2002 Schedule *
- 20 - 22 March
- 26 - 28 June
- 25 - 27 September
- 27 - 29 November

Venue
Manila Galleria Suites
Ortigas, Pasig City

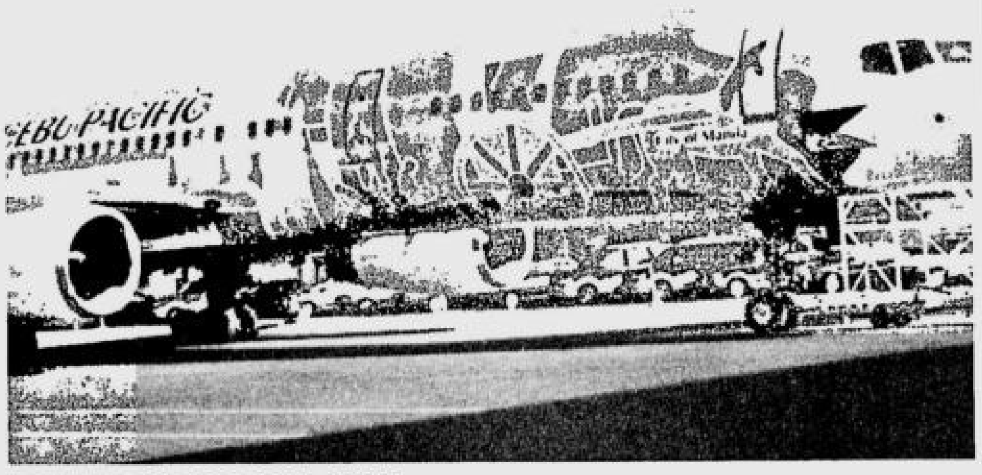
Fee
P 7 800.00 per participant
(materials, meals, certificate)
Please address cheques to PAEAP (Phil Association of Environmental Assessment Professionals).

ISO-DTI Modules on ISO 14001
Course Outline
- EMS challenge
- Management system concept and PDCA cycle
- ISO 14001 elements
- Case studies
- National Environmental Legislation
- Integration of EMS and QMS

ISO-recognized EMS Trainers
Resource Speakers
- Irene V. Daniel, DTI-BPS
- Editha G. Cabrera, PAEAP
- Nanita F. Fidelino, DTI-BPS
- Lourdes V. Navia, DTI-BPS
- Clarissa M. Oracion, PAEAP

* Requests for in-house seminar-workshops are accepted.

Queries and reservations are accepted at the BPS office,
3F Trade and Industry Bldg., 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City,
with tel nos. 8905225 (Glo) and 8905226 (Mario),
and with email address bps@dti.gov.ph.



CEBU PACIFIC'S 2ND B757
Cebu Pacific Air took delivery of its second Boeing 757 which will be used for its Seoul-Manila service that starts next month. Called the City of Manila, the aircraft sports a colorful livery that depicts famous Manila landmarks, including the Rizal Monument at the Luneta Park and the ubiquitous *kalesa*. The B757 is the latest addition to Cebu Pacific's growing fleet, which is being beefed up for the airline's international operations. Its first Boeing 757 was delivered last December and is now being used for its Manila-Hong Kong service.

CreditLyonnais unit, Exchange Capital form joint venture

HONG KONG-based CLSA Emerging Markets and Manila's Exchange Capital Corp. recently finalized an investment banking joint venture to be known as CLSA Exchange Capital Inc.

The agreement provides for the purchase by CLSA of a 60-percent stake in ECC.

ECC chair Luis Juan Virata said that by aligning their investment banking services, the two strong franchises will be able to offer comprehensive cross border capital market and financial advisory services to Philippine companies. They will also be able to provide clients with greater insights and access to a broader range of financial expertise.

Michael McCoy, executive vice chair, explained that over the last three years while most of the foreign investment banks pulled out of the Philippine equity market, CLSA has remained steadfast. This investment, he said, reaffirmed CLSA's commitment to the Philippines and to providing its clients with a balance of local know-how within a global perspective.

CLSA, according to McCoy, not only retained its seat in the local stock exchange and continued promoting the Philippines, but it also increased its Philippine presence by investing in this joint venture with ECC.

CLSA has over 700 employees in 29 countries and is widely recognized as a leader in brokerage and investment banking services in the emerging markets of Asia, Latin America, Emerging Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

CLSA is a 65-percent owned subsidiary of France's CreditLyonnais Bank, which was established in 1863 and is now one of Europe's largest banks.

ECC, formerly known as Jardine Fleming Exchange Capital Corp. Inc., is a leading local investment bank and is the top underwriter of equity and equity-linked securities for Philippine companies in the international markets. Since 1993, ECC was responsible for raising over $2.5 billion in equity and equity-linked financing for Philippine companies.

Breaktime . . . .

From page B2

from the Civil Aeronautics Board.

Obviously, the word war in media is designed to influence the Cab decision. I wonder, with all the pressure exerted on it, how the CAB can even rule on the issue. I think the CAB should call for a stop to it. Just wait for the ruling!

For in the end, both PAL and Cebu Pacific just lose. They are both our flag carriers, wanting to run each other to the ground, trying to kill each other.

Now, close your eyes and imagine where we would be without our own airlines. See it? It's very noisy. That would be Taipei. Yep, if we are not careful, we will be forced to use Taiwanese airlines. Yuck!

Here are patients you don't want to confine.

Aventis

Cockroaches not only carry disease.
They bring damage to property that could cost you millions.

Prevent that from happening with GOLIATH Gel, a specialized cockroach bait. The gel works to contaminate a cockroach that feed on it. The infected cockroach carries back the gel to its nest, contaminating hundreds more. A small amount could wipe out an entire colony, leaving you cockroach-free for up to 3 months. And since it's a gel, there's no spraying and no added mess!

So when patients like these check in, you know what treatment to administer

Call your accredited Goliath applicator through GOLIATH GEL ANTI-ROACH HOTLINE at: (632) 807-3858

For provincial inquiries:
(083) 554-7211 Gen. Santos
(082) 221-2107 Davao
(0882) 272-7060 Cagayan de Oro
(062) 991-0197 Zamboanga

No Spray. No Mess.
GOLIATH GEL
People friendly. Cockroach deadly.

Japan trade gets help from rising US demand

TOKYO—Japan had a trade surplus of 188.1 billion yen ($1.40 billion) in January, helped by growing demand from the United States, which raised hopes that overall Japanese exports could be heading for a recovery.

The customs-cleared trade surplus contrasted with a rare deficit of 95.7 billion yen in January 2001, according to Ministry of Finance data published on Monday.

The data come as welcome news to Japan's policymakers, who are piecing together an anti-deflation package in the face of slumping share prices and grim economic indicators.

Japan's usual monthly trade surpluses have shrunk over the past couple of years, hurt by a slowdown in world economies.

Even though exports were down by 1.8 percent in value year-on-year in January and by 1.9 percent in volume, those falls were much smaller than in other months since mid-2001.

In January, Japan's surplus with the United States, its largest trading partner, rose 14.9 percent year-on-year to 524.8 billion yen—the first year-on-year rise in five months.

"The surplus was slightly larger than our expectations as automobile exports to the United States were quite firm," said Minako Iida, economist at Deutsche Securities.

"Although it is difficult to assess the trend from one month's data, the trade surplus will likely grow over the medium term as exports are expected to bottom out on brighter prospects for economic recovery in the United States and Asia."

A government official said automobile exports rose 24.8 percent year-on-year in value.

Japan's exports have been hit hard over the past year by a global economic slowdown that began with a slump in high-tech demand and was exacerbated by the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States.

Its customs-cleared trade surplus slid 38.3 percent in 2001, its biggest drop since 1970 and the third year of decline.

A budding recovery in the US economy and the yen's depreciation against the dollar over the past few months have been helping the country's exports.

Susumu Okano, chief economist at Daiwa Institute of Research, said: "The main point was that exports rose, indicating that a fall in exports has stopped and alleviating concerns after poor December figures."

"The overall trade surplus will likely be on a growing trend over the next six months," Okano said.

With domestic demand still extremely weak, exports are seen as the best way for Japan to pull out of its long economic slump.

The government is due to announce its anti-deflationary package on Wednesday and the Bank of Japan's Policy Board meets the following day amid calls for further easing, but neither seems likely to have anything up their sleeve capable of turning round the economy quickly.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, January's trade surplus rose 40.1 percent from December, with exports gaining 8.5 percent.

The ministry used a dollar rate of 131.00 yen to calculate January data compared with 115.19 a year earlier and 124.54 yen in December.

The yen has fallen about 13 percent against the dollar since mid-September.

However, a Finance Ministry official said it was difficult to assess the impact of the yen's fall on the trade balance at this point. The effect of currency movements on trade data tends to lag by some months.

"The yen's recent weakness is expected to be positive for Japan's exports, but I think the key for the trade surplus going forward would not be foreign exchange levels but rather a recovery in offshore economies," said Tetsuro Sawano, senior economist at Tokyo-Mitsubishi Securities.

Reflecting the weak domestic economy, customs-cleared imports of crude oil in January totaled a preliminary 316.561 billion yen ($2.36 billion), down 23.0 percent from a year earlier.

The volume of January crude imports fell 10 percent from a year earlier to 19.941 million kiloliters.

Reuters

Chinese growth slowed to 6.7% in Oct.-Dec.

BEIJING—Chinese economic growth slowed to 6.7 percent in the fourth quarter of last year, state media said Monday in the first official release of the key economic figure.

The fourth-quarter growth rate—low by Chinese standards—was a reflection of the slowdown in global economic growth, the China Securities Journal reported.

Economic growth posted a steady decline throughout last year, starting with an 8.1-percent growth in the first quarter, 7.7-percent growth in the second quarter and 7 percent in the third, the paper said.

China's economy grew by 7.3 percent for the full year of 2001, down from 8 percent in 2000, according to previously released government statistics.

Slowing exports to key markets such as the United States and Japan has been given as one of the main factors behind the decline in overall economic growth from 2000 to 2001.

China's export growth slowed to 6.8 percent in 2001 from 27.8 percent in 2000, resulting in the nation's lowest trade surplus since 1996.

AFP

Politics hampers Indonesia's banking reforms

JAKARTA—A political stalemate and lack of legal certainty are hampering efforts to reform and restructure Indonesia's banks, Moody's Investors Service warned Monday.

The global ratings agency said the banks' financial strength ratings have seen a modest recovery due to recapitalization, intensive restructuring, upgrading programs and tighter regulation.

But it said in its annual report on the country's banking system that the ratings "remain hostage to a largely unfavorable operating environment, low economic capital and potentially volatile earnings."

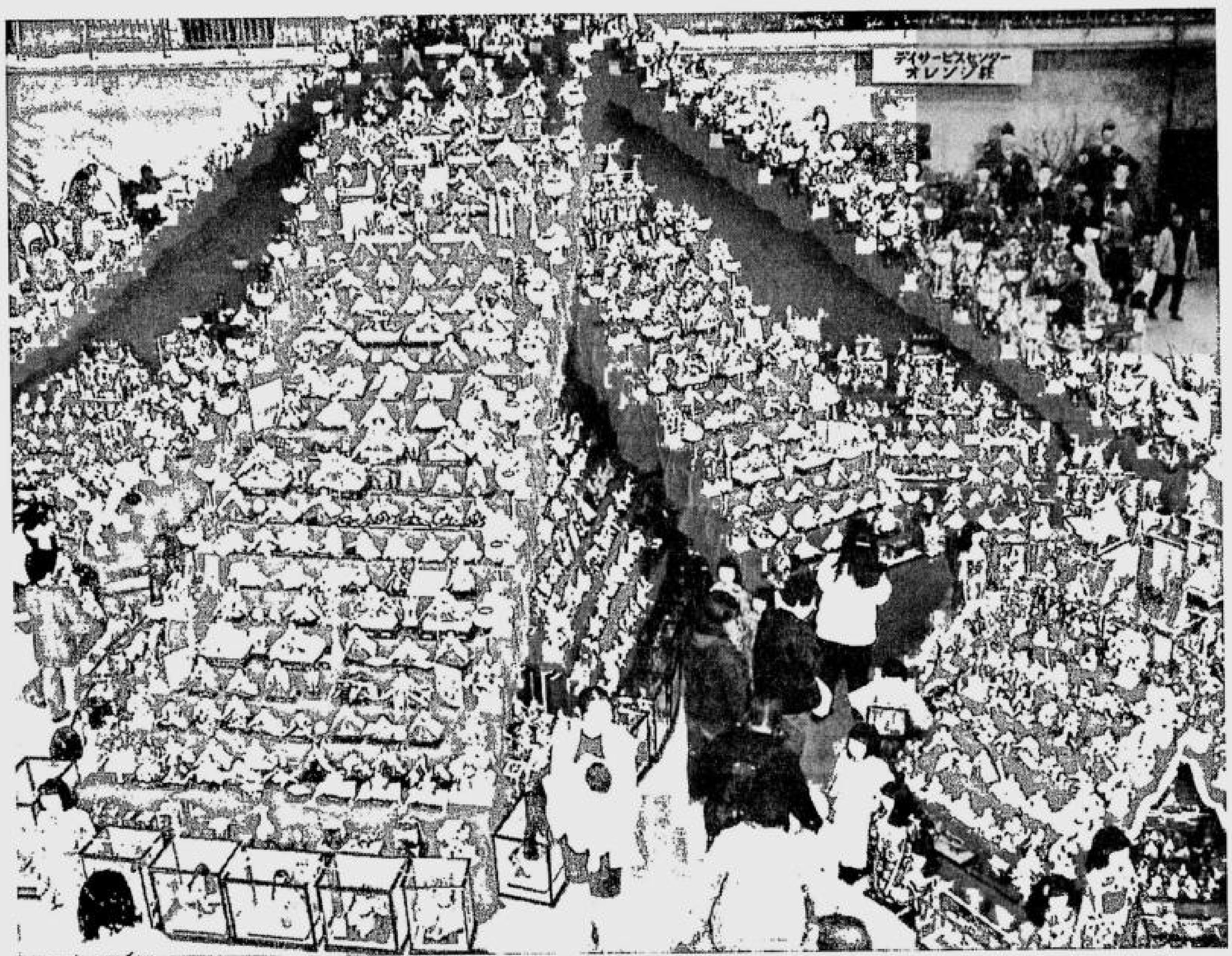
The New York-based agency said the outlook for the ratings was stable.

But it said that at an average of a "very modest" E+, in the short- to medium-term they continue to be determined "largely by political considerations."

It cited a wide range of conflicting political and social agendas, which has led to policy stalemate that is stifling progress in reform and restructuring.

The lack of legal certainty also hampered operations and undermined creditor protection.

AFP


デイサービスセンター
オレンジ館

VISITORS look at "hina" dolls at a community center in Katsuura, western Japan. About 15,000 dolls were displayed for the Big Hina Festival, celebrating the traditional Girls' Day on March 3.

AP

US economic recovery may leave consumers behind

NEW YORK—The recession the US economy experienced last year was a mild one, thanks to the power of the American pocketbook, which allowed consumers to spend even as business profits collapsed.

But as the economy starts to recover and profits at some businesses improve, American workers and consumers may feel a pinch as corporations try to cut down labor costs.

"At every meeting," said a product manager at a West Coast bank, "my boss tells us, 'Everyone worked hard last year, and their efforts were appreciated. But remind your people that the company didn't make money so make sure their expectations (for salary and bonuses) are where they should be.'"

This relationship between corporate profits and Americans' income and spending power means economic growth in the first year of recovery would probably be more subdued than in the first years after previous recessions, economists said.

Goldman Sachs & Co. economist Jan Hatzius said that meant 2002 might look like a mirror image of 2001. Last year's strong wage increases crushed corporate profit margins but helped consumer spending stay strong. This year, margins will probably recover some of their lost ground, but a slowdown in wage growth will weigh on real incomes and consumer spending.

After-tax income is what drives consumer spending, said Dana Johnson, managing director and head of research at Banc One Capital Markets.

In this recession, spending increased much more sharply than usual due to President George W. Bush's $38 billion in tax cuts last year and to stronger than usual real wages.

Real wages, which excluded the corrosive effect of inflation on earnings, were healthy because a drop in energy prices stretched consumers' buying power. In addition, corporations were quite generous in their pay settlements last year.

"The productivity gains meant that companies could afford to pay workers more, and the low unemployment rate meant that companies were forced to pay workers better," Johnson said. Output per worker rose a healthy 3.5 percent late last year.

In the 2001 recession, pay gains ate into corporate profit margins, Goldman Sach's Hatzius said. In early 2000, a year before the contraction started, real labor costs were growing by 5.5 percent, the fastest rate since 1950. Even after last year's economic slowdown, they were still growing at a 2.5-percent annual pace.

Hatzius said he expected pay to slow even further to a one-percent growth rate by late 2002 due to rising unemployment. This, in turn, would allow corporate profits to improve somewhat in 2002.

"But at the same time, that's going to cut into (consumers') disposable income," Hatzius said. "What you're going to see is a redistribution of income from the household sector to the corporate sector."

But for economic growth, redistributing income from consumers to businesses is a zero-sum game. So even if consumers are reading about a recovery, they might not feel it. Fewer workers may be laid off and a few more may be hired, but "what they'll see in their paychecks is not going to be particularly impressive," Hatzius said.

Reuters

Unemployment in Singapore seen hitting 6%

SINGAPORE—The unemployment rate in Singapore may rise to as high as 6 percent before the economy recovers later this year, a news report said Monday.

The unemployment rate is now about 5.3 percent as Singapore struggles through a recession, Ng Eng Hen, Minister of State for Education and Manpower, was quoted as saying in the Straits Times Monday.

"So what we will see from the employment situation is that it will get worse before it gets better," Ng said in the reports.

Ng is also head of a ministerial Jobs Task Force, which aims to help unemployed workers find work.

The government is expected to issue detailed unemployment numbers for the fourth quarter and 2001 on Thursday.

Singapore is suffering from its worst recession in 36 years as the global economic slowdown hurts demand for the country's exports. Singapore's economy shrank 2.2 percent last year, forcing companies to shed workers.

AP

Thai outlook brighter despite bad loan rise

BANGKOK—Thailand's embattled banks reported a small rise in bad loans for January, but analysts said the sector was nevertheless recovering from crisis in step with the overall economy.

The Bank of Thailand said on Friday that non-performing loans—loans without revenue for three months—carried by the nation's banks averaged 10.53 percent of assets at the end of January, up slightly from 10.50 percent a month earlier.

Despite the rise, which followed seven months of declines, analysts said NPLs were unlikely to severely dent improving bank earnings this year.

"I don't believe it will greatly hurt bank earnings or aggravate their provisioning burdens later this year," analyst Kavee Chukijkasem at Capital Nomura Securities said.

Thailand's biggest bank, Bangkok Bank, third-ranked Thai Farmers Bank, Thai Military Bank and Bank of Asia all announced higher NPLs.

Analysts forecast the sector's NPL level will fluctuate in a narrow range this year, and not reverse slowly improving bank perfor-

A CUSTOMER riding a snowmobile is served at the McDrive restaurant in Pitea, 130 kilometers south of the Artic Circle in northern Sweden. The first McDonalds drive through for snowmobiles opened on Saturday with a specially marked track for drivers.

REUTERS

Invesco sets sights on Japan savings, in for long haul

TOKYO—Anglo-US fund manager Amvescap Plc. will not give up on Japan, spurred by hopes that educating the public about long-term investment will help unlock a huge pool of savings now earning near-zero returns.

Its commitment to Japan, the world's second largest economy, comes despite growing disappointment among investors at the slow progress of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's structural reforms and a stock market mired near an 18-year low.

"We're in for the long haul. We are not going to get discouraged," Michael Benson, chief executive officer at Invesco Global, the Amvescap division overseeing operations outside North America, told Reuters in an interview.

"The history of Japan is that it's going to take him (Koizumi) longer than maybe all of us might have hoped."

Invesco, like other asset managers, is eyeing a piece of Japan's 1,400 trillion yen ($10,440 billion) pie of household financial assets, more than half of which sits in low-risk investments like post office savings earning negligible returns.

Only 2 percent of the total is in investment trusts, compared with 12 percent in the United States.

The poor outlook for Japan's deflation-bound economy, a shaky financial system and the collapse in December of US energy trader Enron Corp. have hit investor confidence in Japan, and Invesco has not gone unscathed.

In terms of investment trusts, Invesco Asset Management (Japan) ranks 32nd in Japan with 85 billion yen under management. It was 25th last June when it oversaw more than 100 billion.

The industry's overarching problem, Benson said, is the low level of understanding of the average citizen and of banks and other distributors of financial products about the long-term investment choices available.

"The education isn't there. Mrs. Watanabe doesn't know about it," Benson said, choosing a common Japanese surname.

"The legislation now permits banks and insurance companies to distribute trust products. But the level of understanding in the banks and in the insurance companies about these products is obviously limited because it has only just become available to them as a product line."

To combat this, Benson said Invesco was talking with its distributors and holding seminars to help raise the level of understanding about long-term investing. *Reuters*

Japanese mobile carriers urged to overhaul marketing

TOKYO—The number of new users taking up mobile phones in Japan has tapered off, but analysts say mobile operators could boost profits if they reduce sales incentives and handset subsidies and lower their churn rate.

Japanese mobile operators have been spending more than 30 percent of their operating expenses on marketing to expand market share but, now that growth is stalling, this expansion-oriented distribution scheme has to be overhauled, analysts say.

"Mobile operators went ahead and invested heavily to acquire new users," said Katsuo Hori, a telecommunications analyst at BNP Paribas. "They are now at the stage where they should be reaping the benefits of their investments."

Japan's largest mobile operator, NTT DoCoMo Inc., has been tight-lipped about its marketing costs, and all the operators have been quiet about their marketing strategies as they fear they could jeopardize relationships with retailers and discourage their sales force.

"Clearly, reducing incentives or reducing the number of replacement handsets will risk losing market share," said Kate Lye, telecom analyst at UBS Warburg. "In the end, it's a management judgment of the risks involved in doing it."

KDDI Corp. and J-Phone, which is operated by Japan Telecom Co. Ltd. and Britain's Vodafone Group Plc, are also keeping their cards close to their chest, although both say they will have a more focused handset lineup in the future.

J-Phone president Darryl Green said earlier this month that the company would depart from its "shotgun" approach and become more selective as to what handsets it unleashed on the market.

Getting out attractive handsets was central to retaining existing customers and snatching users from competitors in the maturing market, analysts said.

The current distribution system hinges on securing new subscribers. Under this structure, all the handsets manufactured by such manufactures as Matsushita Communication Industrial Co. and NEC Corp. are bought by mobile operators, which then sell them to retailers with incentives.

Reuters

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912 9008-11 (9129011 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES

P230 per column centimeter

P65 per line

(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES

for reservations / cancellations / corrections

Mondays to Saturdays	Sundays
12:00 noon	12:00 noon
Day before publication	every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

Cosmetic Surgery
50% Discount
Nose Breast Facelift
Eyebag/Slit Hair Transplant
Ear Repair Lipo Varicose Vein
Tel.# 723-2223 • 724-8963
Hosp. MWF 10am/4pm 533-0685

RAPID Tx VD-STD
SCARS Ex SWEAT ALLERGIES
15 Annapolis, Greenhills
Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Matrinco Bldg. 2178 P. Tamo 8175071

PERSONAL

ACCOUNTANT

Accounting Services 0917-8312369

ARCHITECTS

P400 CAD Drafting 8819158
P5000 Hse/Bldg Plan 7571028
P3000 Land Survey 7282605

CONSTRUCTION/ DESIGN

BLDG HOUSE CONST. REPAIR RENOV ROOF PAINT 7408490

P6500/m² Swimming Pool
P5000/m² Whse/Bldg-7282605

COSMETOLOGY

FACIAL SKINCARE
Training/ Workshop
8956031 L2011 OR 8971832

MASSAGE

'ATTA MEN 5758077

BANAUE SPA M&F 7411426

BOYZ 2DMX 8348875

★BONG 09164329065★

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8511883 ; 0916-4404374

MALE 16 PALANAN 7320659

MASSAGE 7516649/7898201

MASSAGE FRED 8513462

•New Mabuhay Massage•
Summer Promo 4215996

Pretty, European Girl 0919-2525922

UNWIND 752-0437

VIP-M/F-24H-SVC 8312373 Romy

REFLEXOLOGY

Edward Reflex 7289285

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

Wizard Massage 4213197

TUTORIAL LESSONS

ENROLL AT C3 NETWORK Learn MS Office, Corel, Adobe, Web & Animation Unit 27, #80 Masikap St., QC ★ 926-6304 / 0917-7918952★

• LIGHT-5268216 OR 70 •

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

100%Trusted Maids Yaya
CALL: 640-8946 & 640-8947

IDEAL MAIDS PROV'L 4934503

BEST MAID 411-1593/741-9082

Direct Maid Yaya Boy 7572089

Good Maids Yaya • 628-3625

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

Yaya Maid Cook 8700799

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 LIPAT BAHAY 4313975

CLOSE VAN 7837228 4/6W

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

Lipat Bahay • 824-1227•

CARPET CLEANING

Sola Shampooing 820-7068

JOBMarket ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

VARIOUS AREAS

★SUBIC 50+has.★
047-9134120 • 09163741571

HOUSE & LOT

MAKATI

Magallanes Vill. 852-6918

MARIKINA

Grnlnd bnew 3br 2M 9487112

Rush! Calumpang LA 293 2BR+1TB 0917-5282174

MUNTINLUPA

Ayala Alabang 900m²/700m² /500sqm Neg 0917-5282174

QUEZON CITY

L411m² D.Tuazon SMH QC 2sty 9281469, 0919-4024987

L-471 Congressional Ave, Comm'l LOT QC 928-1469

L624m² SFDM QC whse 2sty 4bdrm w/office • 928-1469

Proj 4 up/down 2BR 2TB 1carGarage 0916-3862982

T. Sora 1.4 & 1.8M Bnew 455-7724 JUN

RIZAL

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb 09178174547

Nr Antipolo Church P1.8 LA-346 FA-150 634-1212

OTHER AREAS

LAGUNA BEL AIR 3 30mins frm mkt. 0917-9114250 Luis

•LAGUNA BEL-AIR 3•
LA120m² up 2-3BR w/prkg
Joann 912-5775

RUSH!CanyonWoods Btngas 6.5M 09185052638

LOT

LAS PINAS

312m² Gloria Diaz St.
BF Resort 5634029 Cherrie / Via

MARIKINA

237.5m² La Colina Parang Mkna Infront Sch No Floods P4T/m² Neg. Call 941-7706

MUNTINLUPA

PLEASANT VILL w/proposed rd direct to FILINVEST ALABANG 477m² P4,500/m² SOUTH GREEN-HEIGHTS VILL 300m² P1.15M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

PASAY

LAST 9 LOTS
PASAY CITY
NR TAFT BET. EDSA/LIBRTD
20%DP 5YRS. P0.5M
DISCOUNT PER LOT SOLD
DEM CAGAMPAN CELL:
(0919)781-8323
(0919)203-5549

PASIG

Ortigas Ctr 3BR FA200 P7-8M VVerde6 3BR 6-7M 723-2391

Valle Verde IV 869m²
Call 634-1212

QUEZON CITY

B'Ridge 800/400 • 723-2391

★ FERNDALE QC ★
Ayala Res Lots now available
204-290m² @ P9,500-P12,160
Pay 20%(in 2 mo.)Bal 5 yrs
Mo. Inst. Few Lots Only
w/Complete Facilities RUSH!
9319117; 9319160 T.Banez

L480 Mayon St. QC Comml Neg. SMH • 928-1469

RIZAL

LOT Greenpark Subd. 300m² Near Ateneo, Walking Distance - Robinsons, Sta. Lucia, Uniwide 931-6928 Not'

LOT NR. COMM. 931-6928-NET

SAN JUAN

Ghills 800&1100m² 723-2391

Ghills East 860 P29K/sqm; North 960 corner • 723-2391

Little Baguio 425 • 723-2391

PROVINCIAL

Landing, Pilar Bataan 2,800m² (047) 237-2318 / 237-4054 Toloy

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

GUEVENTHOMES
Upper Farview, Baguio City
NO DOWN PAYMENT!
for units under construction
Brand New Townhouse Units
overlooking Session Rd.
very near Baguio Town Proper
CALL: RSG Sales
(02) 531-1384 * (02) 531-0395
(0917) 834-2759
Toll Free 1-800-10 RSG HOME
www.guevent.com/homes
RFO ALSO AVAILABLE
OPEN HOUSE
Feb. 23,24 &25
Brokers / Agents Welcome

LOT

PROVINCIAL

ATTENTION
Manufacturers & Investors
Cavite Light Industrial Park
Phase 1 Ready for Move-in
Phase II at PRE-SELLING
Maguyam Rd, Carmona Cavite
Tel. 635-8108/631-4069 Jonathan
Brokers are Welcome

MONTEBELLO
Along Maguyam Road
Via Carmona, Cavite
PRE-SELLING
Residential Lot for Sale
@ Discounted Price
Tel. 635-8108 / 636-0111 - 14
Look for Dante
Brokers / Agents Welcome

TAAL Btngs 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P1.4M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

OTHER AREAS

TOWN&COUNTRY Southville 209m² P680T Vic 8903461L.27

VISTA VERDE EXEC VILLAGE LA319m² P1.3M Vic/Gigie 8903461 loc. 27/25

CONDO/TWNHSE/ APT

LAS PINAS

BFR 1.6M 3BR 2TB 8428853

MANILA

Only Univ. Belt Condo 850T Up 8T/mo. Pay DP Lipat Agad 5758367 7341083 0919-2176735

Providence Tower Malate Studio Type 0917-5282174

SN ANDRES MLA
NR SSHIWAY Bnew
Twnhse/4stry/4br/3tb/grge/maid
P3.035M up 8903461 loc 34

MARIKINA

Palmera 2BR P850T 7232391

PASIG

Renaissance 3K 3BR P8M Pioneer H 1BR P2.7M 723-2391

QUEZON CITY

SALE/RENT 2-3BR TERMS AFFORDABLE T414-0573

TandangSora 3br+1md 2tb P2.5M DDO 0917-8143792

UNION SQ ONE FA80m² P1.9M 1BR 2TB Vic 8903461 loc. 27

•Why buy if not ready to use Visit us 4 flexi term @ 0% 50TRes+70Tmovein, only 14Tmo nr Ateneo UP St Lukes 4210734 4213233 09104821524/09194076857

SAN JUAN

Cortijos Greenhills 3BR 5M; Eisenhower 3BR 4M 7232391

Greenhills Several 1-3BR
P3.5M-7.5M • 723-2391

Platinum 1 4BR 2CP P6.2M! Wak' Twin 3BR P8.2M Terms Eisenhower 3BR P4M 723-2391

Platinum 1 Annapolis 176 FA 17th Flr. 634-1212

OTHER AREAS

Nova.Town-Hse P1.790/1.690M Gudwil Homes 1 Neg. 640-6448

MEMORIAL LOT

★HERITAGE PARK★ Buy Garden Lot Get a Lawn Lot for FREE 6714421

FACTORY/WHSE

Warehouse 4 Rent 1350sqm F. Manalo St. San Juan P99T /mo. Call 724-7057 / 6735

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FACTORY/WHSE

W'HOUSES / FACTORIES
FOR LEASE / FOR SALE
LUCKY HAUS REALTY
TEL 912-6020 * 912-6021

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MAKATI

3BR 2B 2srvntqtr 8992148

NEW 4 Storey Apts.
2BR, Parking, Very nice
near Mkti CBD, EDSA, Fort B.
CALL 8821811•0916-3692836

QUEZON CITY

•P5.5T Studio T-9267419

SAN JUAN

2BR PARKING 631-6397

HOUSE

MAKATI

Dasma 2Sty Hse 4BR Spool 160K No Brokers 722-9573

SANLO DUPLEX 5268048

MANDALUYONG

3BRMS w/TB w/aircon w/tel P12.5T/mo. Marlyn 534-6253

PARANAQUE

MGV Pque 2sty 5BR4TB w/phone 8445449 CP09195546815 Didi

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

BNEW MKTI CONDO-11K
Oxford Suites, FF
Elegant w/Nice View
nr. Buendia & Mkti. Ave.
7594091•7522580•09178381928

RITZ TOWERS B2202
6745 Ayala Ave. Makati City
FA263m² 3BR 2 park spaces
For inquiries pls call Clarise
373-2849 / 372-1478

MANILA

3BR 3sty nr. LSalle 8992148

KASSEL CONDO NR. DLSU Studio Type 0917-4058525

PASIG

★AIC Ortigas★
2BR P25K All In • 671-4421

★ALEXANDRA★ 70K/mo.
Semifurnished • 671-4421

Ortigas Ctr 2-3BR FF 30-40K VVerde6 3BR 40K • 723-2391

P Chateau 1BR 15T; 2-3BR F 30-40T; Residencia 40T Crisanta 2BR 25T • 723-2391

VVerde 3BR P30-40T 723-2391

SAN JUAN

G'HILLS 1BR 5268048

Ghills 3BR P30-40T 723-2391

FOR LEASE

L2472m² Barangka Marikina 4 Lease VLot P86T 928-1469

BEDSPACE

Ladies Nr Alabang 842-8748

Nr LASALLE 899-2148

Prof. Single Ladies P1350 Nr Boni-EDSA Mand 532-9925

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% w/o TAKING CAR 3670169

CAR SANGLA • INSTANT!
WHILE -U- WAIT
924-1254 • 925-9121 • 926-4160
We Also Buy Used Cars

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L Business Personal Gigie/Ernie 8903461 loc. 25/23

BUSINESS RENTAL

524 EDSA KAL 3FLRS 3612663

Commercial Space 4 Rent JB Vargas Shaw Blvd. 183sqm 38T/mo. Call 726-3018

MALATE OFFICES 5268048

Medical Plz-Ortigas 40-75m²Sale /Rent 412-1825 /0917-7914366

PRESTIGE TWR 160m² FFurn other loc/sizesAuble 4121825

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

BUSINESS RENTAL

QUEZON AVENUE
1468 Quezon Avenue QC
(nr National Bookstore)
2nd Floor Room 201 80.50m²
P25,222 & Room 202 50.43m
²P16,698 (good for SMALL
FIRMS) For inquiries pls call
Clarise 3732849•3721478

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

BMW

97 BMW 316i 7280473 Rush

★BMW '95 Black 53000Km★ P680T Gud Condtn 671-4421

FORD

RUSH! '83 Mdl P58T Neg Running Condition Telstar Call 640-8448

KIA

Besta Van P205T (Neg)
671-3535 / 733-2507 / 0917-8472716

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/ TRANSPORT

KUBOTA 4X4 P55T 3672002 5-10-55-65 KVA GEN 3610215

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

Bnew Van 8254058 8261045

CAR VANS 410-0495

Vans Coaster Bus 913-9123

CARVAN 046-4349593 CVT

HiAce, L300 9296250

IT/HIACE 9136710/4333682

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917(Roger)

MARIAN 8955627
CARS CSTER VANS BRDAL

MB HiAce Starex L3 8257135

MB100 Van 6437397, 6393957

SELF-DRIVE
New CARS/VANS-ALL BRANDS
ABC 5368822/3039789

STAREX L300 CARS 7268388

TOYCO Trans Coaster/Cars Vans Rental •800-6595•

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

1.5% FAST CAR LOAN 3677523/24

2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

2% w/o taking car 7202780

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3732083

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

Grand Father Clock Poker Table 6 Chairs 0917-9656692

HOME APPLIANCE

TV 34&29" Sony/Tosiba REF 6-5-4 Dors All Lnew & Imported 7767507

PETS

•AM COCKER SPANIEL•
3MONTHS PEDIGREE 8160148

DOG TRAINER 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
Trains Dogs w/Competence
Tel : 721-37-36

ROTT 3mos.BIG 12T 4183694

SPORTING GOODS

Imported Billiard 22T, 35T Complete Acc's. 8618714/16 8613123 / 8613125

New Billiard P18.5T P22T P25T Ok C.Card 781-9453

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND CONTACT NUMBERS

Effective Tuesday, February 26, 2002, the **PICAZO BUYCO TAN FIDER & SANTOS** Law Offices will be holding office at its new offices with the following address:

18th, 19th and 17th Floors
LIBERTY CENTER
104 H.V. Dela Costa Street
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Metro Manila

The new telephone and facsimile numbers are as follows:

TRUNK LINE:	**(632) 888-0999** Connecting all Departments
FAX NUMBERS:	**(632) 844-6169** 19th Floor
	(632) 888-1012 19th Floor
	(632) 888-1011 18th Floor
	(632) 844-6167 17th Floor

The general e-mail address shall continue to be
picazolo@info.co.ph

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

Buy/Sell Ready 2Use HS & College Educl Plan 8061574

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

WE BUY **ROLEX**
5633742 5646593 09174383744

MISCELLANEOUS

Warehouse Frames Used Rolled UP Door Steel Bars/Pipe 0468521399

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

Account Executives
For US-Based Company min 3 yrs Exp. In Ads or Printing Co. 547-3471

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING BY AN ACCTG FIRM (2)FEMALE COMPUTER ENCODER G. MASANGKAY NEAR COR. BAMBANG STA. CRUZ 2553083

MED TECH
MEDIC WORLD 632-9323 to 24

Secretary Single San Juan 7240346 / 7251170 See Tan

Skin Therapists & Doctors Call Naty/Josie 721-9227 / 28

WANTED ACCOUNTANTS; B.S. MKTG.; ARCHITECT & CIVIL ENGINEER
All female with experienced 4 Angeles City of a Realty Co. Tel. (045) 887-4142 to 46 724-7057 • 724-6735 Manila

MALE/FEMALE

HAIR STYLIST
•Professional•
For Megamall Branch Mla
0917-8398638

★OFC STAFF 9134470 Lesly★

Ofc Staff 18-45yrs old w/ w/out exp Start ASAP 9134470 Mariel

OFC STAFF 713-6116 MS. GO

OFC. STAFF 913-4470 ALLEN

OFF STAFF 913-4470 MS. FE

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Globe 9%Smart 11% 745-9351

Great News! If you are not earning over 200T/mo.@ your present network bus. Let's Talk Now 807-2359 RESH

Pregnancy & Drug Test w/License Call 931-6253

SAGOT SA KRISIS, SARILING BISNES! JUICE DRINK MAKING BUS. 2554643/44 , 2569331

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

REGION IV
Balagtas, Batangas City

NOTICE OF BIDDING

The National Food Authority Region IV invites all interested manufacturers of polypropylen plastic sacks to participate in bidding to supply approximately 300,000 pieces of rice milling MTS with the following specifications:

SPECIFICATIONS	**RICE**
MTS Code	PPM G50
Material	Polypropylene
Color	White
Type	Woven Polypropylene
Thread Count	
Warp	10.00
Filling	10.00
Size	
Length	970 mm
Width	530 mm
Min. Weight	75 g
Min. Bursting Strength	1,510 kPA
Breaking Strength	
Warp	344.00 N
Filling	295.00 N
Seaming	
Turned Edges	25.00 mm
Stitching	
Depth from bottom edge	10.00 mm
No. of Stiches/decimeter	12.00
Open Top End	Heat Cut
Design/Logo	NFA Prescribed design front and back prints 2 colors
Roughness/Cohesiveness	Warp/Filling should be provided with twisted yarns

Bid forms can be secured from the RPBAC Secretariat from **February 25-28, 2002** after paying a non-refundable fee of P1,000.00 per participant.

Interested parties should submit the following requirements:

Envelope A:

1. Location and vicinity plan of manufacturer's plant
2. For corporations - SEC Registration and Articles of Incorporation
3. DTI Registration for Sole Proprietorship
4. Company Profile
5. Audited Financial Statement for the past two (2) years (1999-2000)
6. Income Tax Return for the past two (2) years with BIR Official Receipt of payment (1999-2000)
7. Original, duly notarized Board Resolution (Corporation)/Special Power of Attorney naming the person authorized to transact business and sign documents in behalf of the company relative to the bidding for the supply and delivery of empty sacks to NFA
8. One passport size photo with these specimen signatures of the duly authorized representative

Envelope B:

1. Duly accomplished/signed Bid Form with the following information:
   a. Price per piece inclusive of all taxes
   b. Plant Capacity per 24 hours operation to be dedicated to NFA
   c. Delivery Period
   d. Validity period of Bid
2. Bidders Bond either in cash, Manager's Check from a reputable Bank or GSIS bond equivalent to 10% of the bid amount

One stage bidding shall be applied. Envelopes A and B shall be submitted to the RBAC not later than 2:00 PM, February 20, 2002. Envelope B will only be opened if all the required supporting documents are in Envelope A.

Venue of Bidding is NFA Region IV in Balagtas, Batangas City. Specific schedules as follows:

ACTIVITIES	**DATE**	**TIME**
1. Issuance of Bid Forms	February 25-28, 2002	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
2. Pre-Bidding Conference	March 1, 2002	10:00 AM
3. Bidding Proper	March 1, 2002	2:00 PM

The RPBAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defects or informalities found therein and accept only such offers which in its judgment are most reasonable and advantageous to the NFA. The decision of the committee as confirmed by the Regional Director shall be deemed final.

For further inquiries, please contact the RPBAC Chairman Mr. Jose B. Guevara, at telephone nos. (043) 723-3325, 723-2186 or 402-0189.

(Sgd.) **JOSE B. GUEVARA**
Asst. Regional Director
RPBAC Chairman

(PDI – Feb. 24, 25 & 26, 2002)

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

RESTAURANT
(OPERATIONAL) Equipd- 2AC, Stove, Ref, Freezers, Furniture 850T Neg. Owner Leaving Katipunan QC 415-0297 0917-8472212

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that all Global Bank Retiro Branch Accts.of ADELINA G.MAYUGA was extrajudicially settled among her heirs as per Doc# 188, Page# 38 Book# CXLI, Series of 2002 of Notary Public Atemio C. Villas of Bohol - PDI 2/14,19,26,2002

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Bobby P. Ocampo has been the subject of a deed of Extra Judicial Settlement among heirs with Waiver of Rights under Doc. No. 172 & 173, Page No. 35, Book No. 02, Series of 2002 in the Notarial Registry of Atty. Severiano D. Orias PDI-Feb.19,26&Mar.5,2002

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

Nuestra-Damus Pawnshop Makati City Auction Sale on March 7, 2002 all unredeemed pledges during the month of October 1-31, 2001. Nuestra Br. II Pio-9:30am; Nuestra Br. I 10:30am; Damus Pasong Tamo-12:30pm; Nuestra Main JP-1:30pm; Nuestra Br. IX Zapote 3:00pm. Sons of J. Lanuza-Auctioneer

NUESTRA-DIAJADE PAWNSHOP LAS PINAS & PARANAQUE METRO MANILA Will have its auction sale on March 8, 2002. All unredeemed pledges during the month of October 1-31, 2001. Diajade Main-9:30am; Diajade Br. II 10:30am; Nuestra Br. III-11:30am; Diajade Br. I-1:00pm; Nuestra Alamanza 2:00pm. Sons of J. Lanuza-Auctioneer

PERSONAL

Thank You Holy Spirit-BNM

PUBLIC NOTICES

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls - Pray for me.

This prayer was found in the fiftieth year of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In 1505 it was sent from the Pope to Emperor Charles when he was going into battle. Whoever shall read this prayer or hear it or keep it about themselves, shall never die a sudden death, or be drowned, nor shall poison take effect on them; neither shall they fall into the hands of the enemy, or shall be burned in any fire or shall be overpowered in battle. Say for nine mornings for anything you may desire. It has never been known to fail so be sure you really want what you ask

National Power Corporation

Small Power Utilities Group
Dilliman, Quezon City

INVITATION TO BID

For the SALE of Waste Oil
"as is, where is"
Date of Bid Opening : March 11, 2002

ITEM DESCRIPTION/LOCATION	MINIMUM BID PRICE
WASTE OIL (Lube) Power Barge 120, Balanacan, Mogpog, Marinduque Torrijos DPP, Brgy. Cagpo, Torijos, Marinduque Boac DPP, Bgy. Bantad, Boac, Marinduque	P0.45 / Liter

Sealed bids in the prescribed form shall be received until the abovestated date, 2:00 PM at NPC-SPUG Office, 2/F Training Center Bldg., NPC-OBC, Quezon Ave. cor. Agham Rd., Diliman, Q.C. and shall then and there be opened and publicly read.

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

1. PROPOSAL BOND DEPOSIT IN THE FORM OF CASH OR MANAGER'S CHECK EQUIVALENT TO FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE TOTAL BID PRICE; and
2. LATEST INCOME TAX RETURN OF THE BIDDER (2000) OR FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE COMPANY (ORIGINAL OR BIR CERTIFIED TRUE COPY)

Additional information, request for inspection and bid forms at P50.00 per set may be secured from Ms. P. F. VICTORIA at the above address or call tel. No. 9228449/9213541 Local 5583.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality found therein and to accept/reject such proposals as may be advantageous to its interest.

SPUG ASSET MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE
(Sgd.) **R. C. CASTILLO**
Chairman

(PDI--Feb. 25, 26 & 27, 2001)

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

P.O. Box 789, Manila, Philippines
6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Philippines
Tel. 632-4389; Fax No. (632) 636-2567
E-mail: adjusupbekova@adb.org or clsoriano@adb.org

INVITATION TO QUOTE

For Contract No. ADB/OAS-2002/005

1. The Asian Development Bank (hereinafter referred to as the ADB), a multilateral development institution headquartered in Manila, Philippines invites interested parties to quote in the provision of technical assistance in property appraisal services related to the purchase and renovation of properties (house, lot, townhouse, apartment, condominium) by ADB staff under the Support Staff Housing Loan Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Services").
2. The general Scope of Work entails the provision of technical assistance in property appraisal, particularly (a) checking and confirmation of TCT/CCT validity as well as the liens and encumbrances from the corresponding office of the Register of Deeds; (b) conduct of initial inspection and appraisal of property/collateral and the immediate environs; (c) analysis and validation of submitted building plans, specifications, bill of materials and cost estimates covering proposed construction/renovation; (d) conduct of subsequent inspections and re-appraisals of progress and construction; (e) conduct special property verification for housing loan applicants through ownership verification of staff and spouse properties; and (e) submission of property verification, appraisal and evaluation reports, including a certified true copy of the TCT/CCT, in a format acceptable to ADB within 10 working days from receipt of the official request for property verification and appraisal from ADB. Detailed calculation on how the appraised value of the property was determined would also be required to be submitted.
3. The invitation to quote is open to all firms and voluntarily formed joint ventures, but only those firms meeting ADB's requirements will be successful.
4. Solicitation documents may be obtained from the Head, Contracts Section, General Services Division, Office of Administrative Services, Room 4223N at the following address: Asian Development Bank, NO. 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, Philippines from 27-28 February 2002 (8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.).
5. This invitation does not entail any commitment on the part of the ADB, either financial or otherwise. Any cost of preparation to quote shall be borne solely by the applicant. the ADB reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation, and to postpone the issuance of the solicitation documents. Only post qualified companies/offerors considered by ADB will be contacted.

(Sgd.) **NORMIN S. PAKPAHAN**
DIRECTOR, GENERAL SERVICES DIVISION
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(PDI--Feb. 25 & 26, 2002)

AUCTION SALE

On the instructions of First Balfour

MODERN CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT; LATE MODEL EXECUTIVE & SERVICE VEHICLES; CONSUMABLES; MACHINE; TOOLS & EQUIPMENT, ETC.

IN OVER 1,000 LOTS INCLUDING: -

MOTOR VEHICLES - (2) NISSAN TERRANO 4 x 4 (to 1998); MITSUBISHI LANCER (1995), (6) ISUZU FUEGO w/ Crew Cab (to 1998); SUZUKI SAMURAI (1998)
TRUCKS - ISUZU 6 x 4 (1997), FUSO 6 x 4, ISUZU 6 x 4 w/ Boom Arm (1996), (2) KIA CERES 4 x 4 (1998), (5) KIA KC2700 4 x 2 (2000), (3) ISUZU ELF 4 x 2 Dropside (1997), (3) ISUZU ELF 4 x 2 Mini Dump Truck (to 2001), ISUZU Elf Lubrication Truck (1998), ISUZU Forward Fuel Truck (1998)
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT - ***Crawler Crane*** - *KOBELCO LAHI 600m 150T Cap. (1998); ***Cranes*** - (2) TADANO TR250M 25T Cap. (1998), TADANO TR250M 20T Cap. R.T. Cranes (1997); ***Backhoe Loader*** - CATERPILLAR CAT 428B (1998); ***Concrete Equipment*** - Asstd. Single Bagger Mixers, Cutters, Vibrators ***Walk Behind / Handheld Compaction*** - (4) MIKASA BOMAG, Vibratory Rollers, WACKER, MIKASA Plate Compactors; WACKER Tamping Rammers; ***Rebar Equipment*** - NIKKO NKB42A Bar Bender ***Tower Lights*** - (3) ALLMAND NITELITE PRO w/ 6KW Generator; ***Generating Sets*** - DENYO DCA300 300KVA, DENYO DCA275 275KVA, (2) DENYO DCA150 150KVA, CATERPILLAR 3306 100KVA; ***Welders/Welding Generators*** - (7) MILLER Big Blue 401DX, (5) MOTOSALDAT TA20/500DC, MOTOSALDAT Rice Thermal Arc MPMP20/500, Asstd. Arc Welders; ***Air Compressors*** - AIRMAN PDS50, AIRMAN PDS 265, ATLAS COPCO XA125DD, (2) ATLAS COPCO XAS76DD, Asstd. Mobile Compressors ***Pumps*** - YANMAR, ROBIN, MYERS, Centrifugal Pumps, ***Misc.*** - (2) 300 Gal Cap. Water Tanks (w/o Trailer)
MACHINE TOOLS & EQUIPMENT - PEDDINGHAUS TDU 100/6 NC Beam Drilling Machine w/ FAGOR 8025 GP Controls; AMERICAN Radial Arm Drill; OSAKA FUJI Shaper; TAKISAWA 10' x 12' b/c Lathe; 10' Cap. Fabricated Hydraulic Press; Plate Rolls; Asstd. Electric Hand Tools; Asstd. Induction Motors
CONSUMABLES - ***Structural Steel Incl.*** Asstd. Steel Plate; Channel Bar; Asstd Angle Bar; Asstd. U-Beam ***C.I./PVC Pipe Incl.*** Couplings; Elbows; End Caps; Flanges; P-Traps; Tees; Tee Reducer; Wyes; Wye Reducers; ***Hand Tools Incl.*** Core Drills; Oxy/Acetylene Sets; Asstd. Electric/Pneumatic Power Tools; HSGT Hand Taps; Pipe Benders; Masonary Drills; Milling Cutters; O/E Spanners; Asstd. Reamers; HSS Drill Bits; Slogging Spanners; Hand Files; Sockets; Soldering Guns; Torque Wrenches; Tube Expanders; Welding Tips; etc. ***Electrical Incl.*** Carbon Brushes; A Large Qty. Of Cable Trays; Flourescent Light Fittings; NISSEN-DENKI 167KVA Oil Filled Transformer; PHILEC 333KVA Pole Mounted Oil Filled Transformer; GE 1.5KVA Dry Transformer; GE 15KVA Oil Filled Transformer; GE 1.5KVA Dry Type Transfomer; Cable Markers; Heavy Duty Electric Cable; Low Voltage Copper Wire; Terminal Lugs; etc.
HEAVY DUTY EQUIPMENT & AUTOMOTIVE SPARES - Camshafts; Clutch Assembly Kits; Cylinder Head Gaskets; Brake Repair Kits; Piston Rings; Engine Valves; Starter Motors; Brake Shoes; Oil Seals; Connecting Rods; Air Filters; Fuel Filters; Fan Belts; etc.
MISCELLANEOUS - Floor Drains; Asstd. Safetyware; Raised Flooring; Soil Test Sieves; Temperature Gauges; Insulation Boards; A Large Qty. Of Asstd. Fasteners; Expansion Bolts; Lifting Slings; Asstd. Silicon Sealant; Storage & Office Containers, etc.

AT: ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION OF ASIA (ECCO-ASIA)
BO. STO. DOMINGO, BAY LAGUNA, PHILIPPINES
ON: THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2002- 10:30AM PROMPT
ON VIEW: WEDNESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2002,
9:00AM - 6:00PM & MORNING OF SALE DAY
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: Php100,000.00 (Upon Registration)

HENRY BUTCHER
Industrial Auctioneers & Valuers

HENRY BUTCHER INTERNATIONAL PHILS. INC.
102 Ground Floor, Jolliland Bldg., 670 EDSA, Pasay City
Tel: (63-2)-852 2910 * 11 Fax: (63-2)-831-9507
E-mail: manila@henrybutcher.com
www.henrybutcher.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OBITUARIES

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
Matthew 10:39

ASUNCION G. DAVID

Peacefully joined our Creator on the 24th day of February 2002 at the age of 88.

A loving wife to **Carlos** (†),
a caring mother to **Arnold, Lorna**;
niece **Auring**; and daughter-in-law **Cecile**;
a devoted grandmother to **Carlo, Miche** and **Rock, John Paul, Tom**;
a great grandmother to **Chap**.

We, her family and all her other relatives and friends, request those whose lives she has touched, to pray for the repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Sta. Rita De Cascia Parish, Philam Homes, Quezon City.

Interment will be on the 27th day of February 2002 at the Family Mausoleum, Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City following the 1:00 PM Mass.

ERRATUM

In the obituary ad of **SANCHO CABILIZA ONGTAUCO** which was published in Philippine Daily Inquirer last February 25, 2002 the interment date and time should be **February 27, 2002, 10:00 AM** and not February 26, 2002, 11:30 AM.

Our apology.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

In Loving Memory
on the 16th Death Anniversary of

NEMESIO I. YABUT

1925 - 1986

Masses will be offered today, February 26, 2002 at the following churches:

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PARISH *Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati City*	6:00 AM
STS. PETER & PAUL CHAPEL *P. Burgos St., Makati City*	6:00 AM
SACRED HEART CHAPEL San Antonio Village, Makati City	7:00 AM
SANCTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH *Forbes Park, Makati City*	12:15 Noon
STO. NIÑO DE PAZ CHAPEL *Greenbelt, Ayala Center, Makati City*	12:15 Noon
NUESTRA SRA. DE GRACIA PARISH *Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City*	6:00 PM
ST. ALPHONSUS DE LIGUORI CHAPEL *Magallanes Village, Makati City*	6:00 PM
ST. ANDREW, THE APOSTLE PARISH *Bel-Air II, Makati City*	6:30 PM
ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH *Pasay Road, Makati City*	6:30 PM

Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28

Pilar Villaseñor Villaflor

of Dagupan City and Macalelon, Quezon,

Widow of the late **Dr. Vivencio V. Villaflor Sr.**

Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord on February 23, 2002 at the age of 98.

Her loving children **Vivencio Jr.** and **Gregoria Poblete, Lila** (†), **Alex** and **Miriam Sabeñano**; grandchildren **Vivencio Jose III** & **Bernadette Malvar, Ma. Pilarcita, Vicente Jose, Aurora Ysabel, Francisco Jose, Ciarra Kristan** & **Ennio Alexandre**; great grandchildren **Pauline** & **Anton**, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the residence of Dr. Vivencio Villaflor Jr., Di-or Village, Dagupan City. Funeral Mass will be on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, 9:00 a.m. at the St. Therese Church. Interment will follow at Eternal Garden Memorial Park, Dagupan City. Please omit flowers. Donation to the Dr. Vivencio V. Villaflor Sr. Medical Foundation will be appreciated.

Our Dearly Beloved Daddy

REYNALDO "REY" B. TUAZON

Peacefully joined our Lord on February 21, 2002 at the age of 45.

His loving mother **Ellang**; wife **Julie**; children **Reja, Bong & Joan**; brothers and sisters, in-laws and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Marian Memorial Chapels, Marcos Hi-way, Antipolo City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, 2:00 p.m. at the Heavens Gate Memorial Park 2, Antipolo City.

We design OBITUARIES for free.

Our Dear Mama

Joaquinita Cinco vda. Alzate

Born: January 6, 1913
Died: February 23, 2002

Together with her husband **Col. Constante Valera Alzate** (†); survived by her children **Jose Baron, Caesar, Eleanor, Enriqueta, Gloria** and **Teresita**; son-in-law and daughters-in-law **Consuelo Manlapaz, Irene Dumaual, Jose Malicdem, Julius Magdangal, Dr. Hilario B. Caldoza**; nephews and nieces **Josef & Andrea, Divi & Jenny, Alza & Mimoy, Gian Carlo & Margarita, Bernadette, Marie Antoinette, Anne Marie**; other relatives and friends request you to pray for her eternal journey with our Lord.

Her remains lie in state at Funeraria Paz, Chapel C, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City where she shall await for her final goodbyes.

Interment will be on Wednesday, February 27, 2002, after the 9:00 AM Mass at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

Our Dearly Beloved

VIRGINIA "GING" VALENTE DIVINO

of Botolan, Zambales

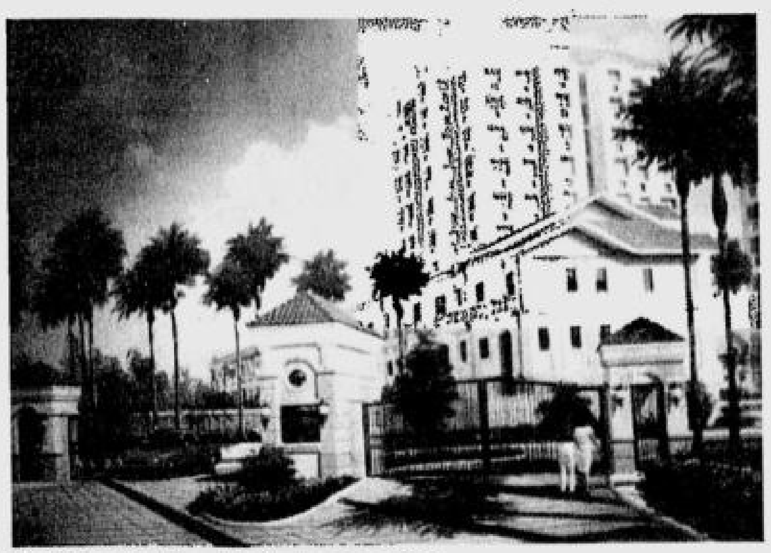
Peacefully joined our Lord on February 24, 2002 at the age of 72.

Daughter of **German Divino** (†) and **Anacleta Valente** (†); her siblings **Peping** and **Hariet Divino, Fred** (†) and **Thelma Divino, Azon** (†) and **Fred Fontillas, Nonong** and **Nory Divino**; grandchildren, dear relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels at Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be announced later.

THE CELEBRITY Plaza



THE PROJECT has Mediterranean design

With more quality projects like The Celebrity Place, confidence in the property sector will soon return

Townhouse project to bring back confidence in property sector

By Charles E. Buban

SPEND the day working out in the gym, or swimming in an Olympic-size pool or, better yet, enjoy a relaxing dip at the Jacuzzi. Whether you prefer the sporty lifestyle, secured surroundings and proximity to premier educational institutions, shopping and business centers, you'll love coming home to the comfort and pleasantly relaxed atmosphere of The Celebrity Place.

Located in Capitol Hills, Diliman, Quezon City, The Celebrity Place got its name from Celebrity Sports Club, one of the country's leading sports and recreational establishment which is located just beside the property.

"Apart from its prime location—being near the country's premier universities and quick access to Metro Manila's major business and shopping centers—unit owners also get privileges of becoming an automatic member of the club," explains Victor Manarang, president and CEO of the property's developer, One Asia Development Corp., during the project's grand launch.

Unit owners will have access to all the club's facilities including an Olympic-size swimming pool, bowling lanes, tennis and badminton courts as well as spa and jacuzzi.

Mediterranean-inspired

Each unit will have three floors, high cathedral ceiling for the living and dining areas, a two-car garage and an impressive garden landscape. The project's Mediterranean–design was conceived by architect Rolando Mercado who provides the in-city community a high level of sophistication.

The two-hectare property is the maiden project of One Asia Development Corp. The Celebrity Place will boast of 116 units to be completed in five phases. The initial phase, which will be available for occupancy by year-end, will consist of 19 townhouses in four clusters. Each unit, which sells at P6 to P10 million, targets the upscale residential buyers.

"For the other hundred plus units we are looking at completing them in about two years. From a development standpoint, townhouses like this one could be built a few units at a time. You can't do that with a condominium since you have to finish it completely once you start," explains Manarang.

The company has invested P1.2 billion for this upscale townhouse project and buyer response is very encouraging since its soft launch in December. "We are confident that the Celebrity Place will have a speedy turnaround as the market for high-end residential projects have been looking for one for some time now," says Manarang.

Positive outlook

Manarang believes that with more quality projects like The Celebrity Place, confidence in the property sector will soon return. The property is a cyclical business. As we all know this sector has been in its downturn since 1997 during the Asian financial crisis. Property analysts said we already hit the bottom in 2000 and we are now slowly recovering," analyzes Manarang.

Manarang believes that the only thing left to be fulfilled is for confidence among consumer and investors to come back. "One Asia is among those companies doing everything to show this country that we are back on track," says Manarang who revealed that his company is also looking at a major residential project in Parañaque worth about P500 million.

Organized just two years ago, One Asia is the high-end developer arm of Extra Ordinary Group, an 18-year-old corporation involved in land banking, construction, development and marketing of socialized and low-cost housing projects.

SEAMLESS
BOILER TUBES
Germany
DIN 17175
1 1/4" to 4" OD
AVAILABLE AT
ARMSTRONG CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY
358 G. ARANETA AVE., SANTOL, QUEZON CITY
TELS. 7135211 TO 13 • 7135191 FAX 7135182

VIVANT FLATS

Unusual flexibility awaits homebuyers

PICTURE your family arriving at your own condominium unit at Vivant Flats. Enjoy a leisurely stroll or a relaxing stretch in your very own garden unit. Take the youngsters for a fun time at the kiddie pool or just get lazy under the sun's warm rays. Everything is clean and ready for a relaxed living.

Located at the premium residential block of Filinvest Corporate City in Alabang, expect more than just a room with a view. The Vivant Flats will be just across the Southpoint Driving Range, down the street from Festival Supermall and two blocks away from the Asian Hospital and a few blocks from Northgate CyberZone's technology companies and De La Salle's IT school.

Designed by world-renowned architect firm Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo, the Vivant Flats will feature expansive glass doors and windows to take advantage of the views of the cityscape or landscaped gardens.

Combining modern convenience and cosmopolitan character, each unit introduces a refreshing approach to interior arrangements with minimal space requirements. "Each unit offers well-planned designs—simple yet elegant enough to suit one's taste," says Beatrice Villegas, Filinvest Alabang corporate communications and creative arts manager.

Flexible

The spacious units are designed to make relaxing an important part of your living. There are plenty of design concepts to choose from because each unit is more than flexible to accommodate whatever design to suit the owner's taste.

In model units available for viewing at the third level of Festival Supermall (beside Festival Bingo and Subway restaurant), Filinvest Alabang presents some design options by architect Alma Cruz.

All model units feature dramatic warm color combinations and quick access to each part of the unit. "There are three choices of units at Vivants Flats—studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units. From these model units, we have provided interested homebuyers a glimpse of how each particular unit would appear but which they can always modify to according to their taste," explains Villegas.

From the models presented, Filinvest Alabang furnished them to acquire that "homey" personality, blending tastefully with the surroundings. The units will have windows overlooking either a garden or Filinvest Corporate City's skyline. "And the furnishings are complete: right down to the smallest details from bathroom fixtures to cabinets design to the choice of appliances," says Bernice Jacinto, Filinvest Alabang assistant manager.

Risk-free

Another unique feature of the Vivant Flats is its affordability. With the concept called "shared development," homebuyers can acquire the unit at exactly the cost to build it.

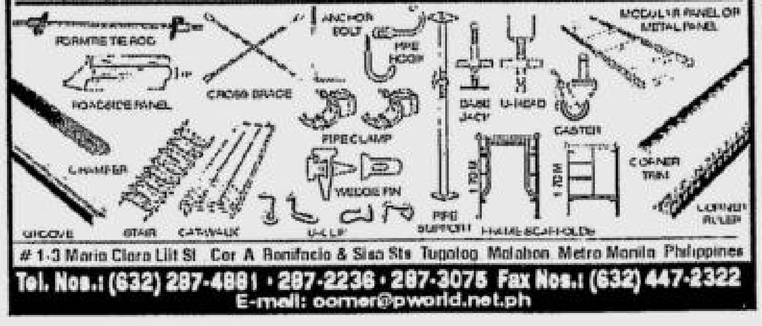
"With shared development concept, homebuyers become a co-developer and co-owner. Homebuyers only have to shell out an initial capital of only 30 percent, payable in six months which they can still opt to avail in easy deferred payment or no monthly principal payment plan," explains Jacinto.

This is risk-free since the bank pays the contractors and suppliers directly. Savings from construction are returned to investors. "What we are offering our homebuyers is the flexibility and convenience of owning this excellent piece of property," says Jacinto.

Charles E. Buban

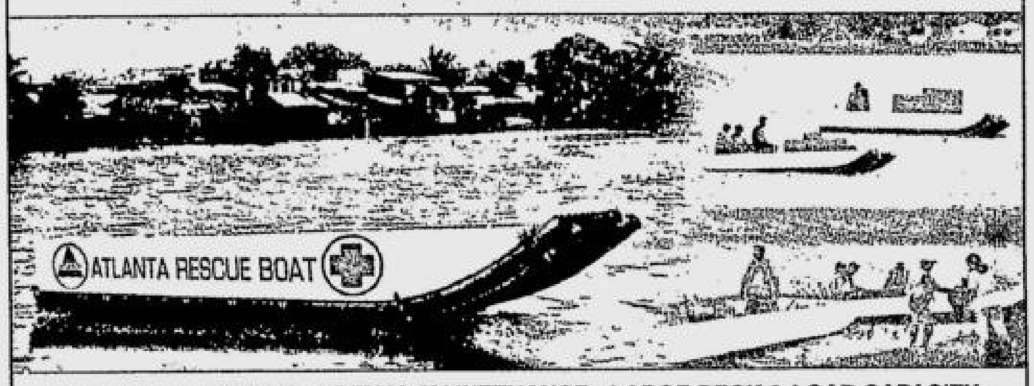
Your Total Solution to any Waterproofing Problem
FLEXSEAL™
Elastomeric Paint
Total waterproofing protection for walls, floors & other general waterproofing requirements
SUPERSEAL
Cementitious Waterproofing Coating
Heavy-duty cement-based waterproofing protection for walls, floors, basements, water tanks and other water-holding structures
TILESTIK
Waterproof Tile Adhesive & Grout
Waterproof, high strength cement-based tile adhesive & grout for interior/exterior wall and floor, thick and thin bed application, not affected by continual exposure to water
'from the most trusted name in waterproofing:
CAMPBRIDGE Waterproofing Systems, Inc
1370 JOSE ABAD SANTOS AVE., METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES
Tel. Nos. 252-65-31 up to 32; 252-65-49 up to 51; 252-65-59; Fax No.: 252-65-50
Website: www.campbridge.com
Distributor for Northern Luzon:
DAGUPAN TONY'S LUMBER INC. (PROBUILD)
AB Fernandez Ave Dagupan Tel No (075) 523-4113 to 14/522-0477
Distributor for Visayas and Mindanao:
CEBU OVERSEA HARDWARE CO., INC.
#82 Plaridel St. Cebu City Tel No (032) 254-1511 Fax No (032) 52426
AVAILABLE THROUGH DEALERS NATIONWIDE

COMER Industrial & Metal Mfg. Devt.
FORMWORK • SCAFFOLDING • FABRICATORS • COMPLETE ACCESSORIES



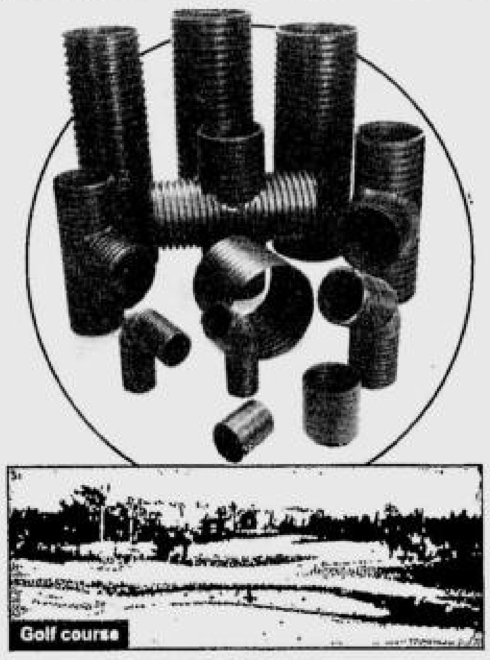
1-3 Maria Clara Lilt St Cor A Bonifacio & Sisa Sts Tugatog Malabon Metro Manila Philippines
Tel. Nos.: (632) 287-4881 • 287-2236 • 287-3075 Fax Nos.: (632) 447-2322
E-mail: comer@pworld.net.ph

Patent Application No. 1 1999-01177
ATLANTA SEALION PVC WATERCRAFT
Made for easy use on rivers, lakes and seas...safe and reliable.

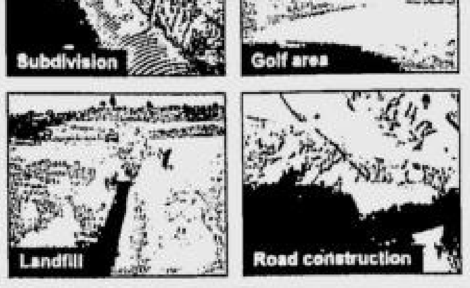


• DURABLE • STABLE • MINIMAL MAINTENANCE • LARGE DECK & LOAD CAPACITY •
AREAS OF USE
- Aquaculture
- Cargo & Transport
- Rescue & Patrol
- Resorts & Leisure
- Workboat
CAPACITY
1700 kgs. (Gross Weight) or 15 persons
1200 kgs. (Gross Weight) or 10 persons
896 kgs. (Gross Weight) or 8 persons
CAN USE INBOARD OR OUTBOARD ENGINES.
Atlanta Sealion PVC Watercraft comes with an ASPW trailer for easy transport anywhere in the country.
The Atlanta Sealion PVC Watercraft is made of Atlanta Marine-grade PVC pipes which are formulated to be very stable, flexible and can withstand high impact stress.
QUALITY ASSURED FIRM ISO 9002 SGS
UKAS QUALITY MANAGEMENT 005
Another quality product of:
ATLANTA INDUSTRIES, INC.
G/F, Goldhill Tower, No. 5 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, M.M.
Tel. nos.: 723 0781 to 96, 744 4700 to 05 Fax nos.: 722 8705 or 723 9576
Website: http://www.atlanta.ph E-mail: atlanta@netasia.net

PAT.NO. UM-7265
ATLANTA HDPE SPIRAL PIPE
The modern approach to drainage systems



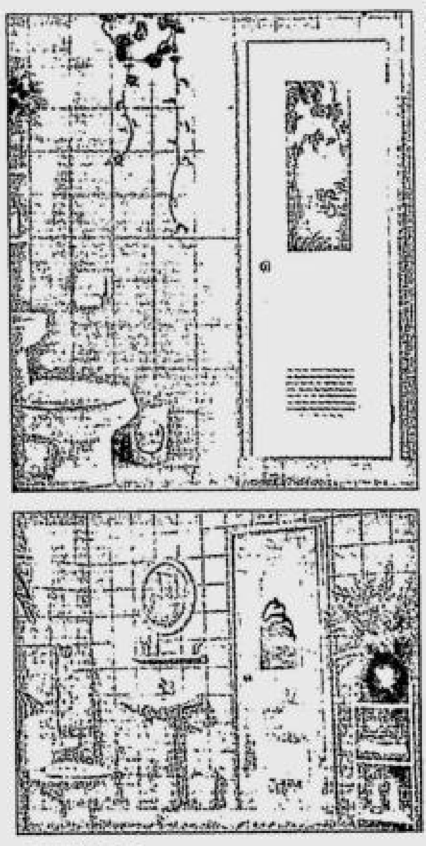
Looking for an innovative yet cost-efficient drainage system?
Use Atlanta HDPE Spiral Pipe, with superior composition which makes it unbreakable and easy to install.
SIZE: 100mm to 900mm diameter



Another quality product of:
ATLANTA INDUSTRIES, INC.
G/F, Goldhill Tower, No. 5 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, M.M.
Tel. nos.: 723 0781 to 96, 744 4700 to 05 Fax nos.: 722 8705 or 723 9576
Website: http://www.atlanta.ph E-mail: atlanta@netasia.net
QUALITY ASSURED FIRM ISO 9002 SGS
UKAS QUALITY MANAGEMENT 005

ATLANTA PVC PARTITION
ATLANTA PVC DOORS

APPLICATION: Atlanta PVC Partition is ideally designed for toilet partition in big buildings such as hotels, restaurants, malls, hospitals, schools and others. It can also be used as office partitions, cubicles, reception counters and the like.
ADVANTAGES:
- Easy to install
- Lightweight
- Elegant and durable
- Maintenance-free
- Modern with reasonable price



ADVANTAGES:
- Easy to install
- Rot-free
- Maintenance-free
- Cost-efficient
- Lightweight
- Waterproof
- Durable
- Soundproof
Height: 2.1M / 1.9M Width: .6 to .9 M
Colors: White and granite finish
Designs: Available in various decorative designs
Another quality product of:
ATLANTA INDUSTRIES, INC.
G/F, Goldhill Tower, No. 5 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, M.M.
Tel. nos.: 723 0781 to 96, 744 4700 to 05 Fax nos.: 722 8705 or 723 9576
Website: http://www.atlanta.ph E-mail: atlanta@netasia.net
QUALITY ASSURED FIRM ISO 9002 SGS
UKAS QUALITY MANAGEMENT 005
Using high-quality PRII-PVC Resin

REALESTATE

Editor **Cesar D. Mangawang**

2001 REPORT CARD

How gov't housing fared

By Tessa R. Salazar

REACHING more than 200,000 shelter security units on a yearly quota of 300,000 is not that bad, especially if the government agency that had to meet this target was burdened with controversies—the recent of which is the impending creation of the Department of Housing.

As of December 2001, the agency had provided "shelter security units" to 202,900 households representing nearly 68 percent of its yearly target.

The Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council revealed this in a Feb. 22 launch of the Celebrity Place of One Asia Development Corp. in Quezon City.

Inclusions

The shelter security project includes shelter security to 124,447 households, or 83 percent of the targeted 150,000 poor to be provided with land tenure through the issuance of 19 presidential proclamations.

Also included is the grant of serviced home lots to 41,490 households or 83 percent of the target through the Community Mortgage Program and resettlement programs for National Home Mortgage Financing Corp. and the National Housing Authority.

The project also included the extended financial assistance of P7.2 billion to 36,933 low-salaried employees, or 37 percent of the target.

Overall target

From 2000 to 2004, the HUDCC aims to house 1.2-million families. About 73 percent of its overall target is for socialized housing. The remaining 27 percent is for economic and high-end housing. Defensor said this mix mirrored the actual demographic needs.

The HUDCC also reported that it had reduced interest rates of the Pag-Ibig lending program to 12 percent for loan packages ranging from P250,000 to P500,000 and 14 percent for loan packages above P500,000. It said the only condition is that the borrower must be a good observer of his or her monthly amortization to ensure the approval of the application for the housing program.

Commitment

To make it easier for aspiring homebuyers, particularly to 100,000 low-salaried workers, the HUDCC, the Social Security System and the Government Service Insurance System said they were committing the following:

- The GSIS would no longer limit borrowers to set home models. It would open its housing loan window for any kind and type of house.
- The GSIS and the SSS shall work with government agencies and local government units which have the funds for housing for their employees.
- The GSIS and the SSS shall process more housing loan applications and consider channeling more funds to Pag-Ibig.

Defensor allays fears of misusing Pag-Ibig fund

DEFENSOR

HOUSING and Urban Development Coordinating Council chair Mike Defensor admitted that amid struggling with the agency's annual targets, he still has to address internal problems such as the controversy surrounding the creation of the Department of Housing.

Misconception

In a Feb. 23 phone interview with the INQUIRER, Defensor said he had denied allegations made by Pag-Ibig employees and critics of the bill creating the housing department that the Pag-Ibig fund would be utilized by the soon-to-be-created Department of Housing for urban poor housing.

This was denied by Defensor, saying this would not be allowable since the Pag-Ibig fund is a private fund, with the government just a trustee.

Said Defensor: "If we do touch the money, then that's tantamount to graft and corruption and even plunder. So it is really a misconception."

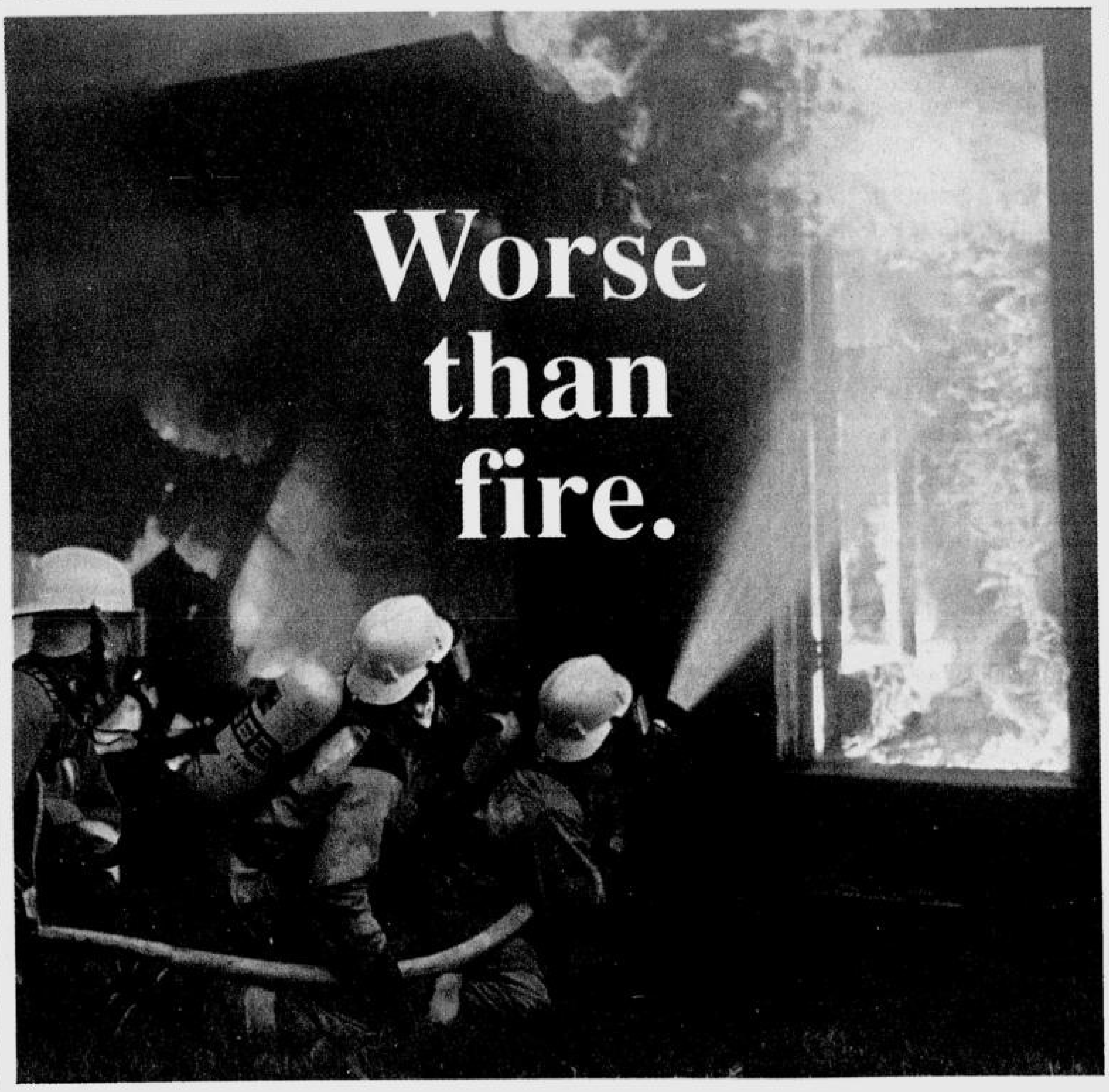
Housing department

The creation of the Department of Housing, he said, is far from being approved. He added that its technical working group just met last week.

Two bills are pending in the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate has a bill establishing the Department of Housing while the Congress has an omnimus bill on housing.

Defensor added that Pag-Ibig is already attached with the HUDCC. He said the only thing that would change, in case the bill becomes a law, is that the HUDCC will become a department to expand its functions, potential and performance.

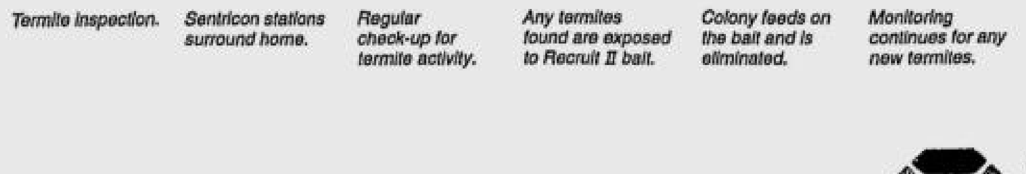
Tessa R. Salazar


Worse than fire.

Termites could be your worst nightmare. Even worse than a fire. Without warning, they can destroy your home.

It's time to take action against these terrorists and stop them once and for all with the Sentricon Colony Elimination System. There are temporary solutions, but the Sentricon System provides permanent protection with unique technology that eliminates termites and then monitors your home for any new intruders. If they appear, they're history.

Isn't it worth protecting your most important investment with the Sentricon System?



1 *Termite inspection.*
2 *Sentricon stations surround home.*
3 *Regular check-up for termite activity.*
4 *Any termites found are exposed to Recruit II bait.*
5 *Colony feeds on the bait and is eliminated.*
6 *Monitoring continues for any new termites.*

Dow AgroSciences
Dow AgroSciences B.V. Philippines
www.sentricon.com

Sentricon*
Colony Elimination System
867-9797

Termites can leave you homeless

DESTRUCTION due to termite attack may not be as sudden or violent as damage from fire, but it is much more likely to occur. Since the Philippines is a terrific breeding and feeding ground for subterranean (underground) termites, one could say that there are only two kinds of homes here: those that already have termites and those that will have.

Termites work 24 hours a day and feast on wood and any cellulosic material like paper or even fabric. So anything from picture frames, radio speakers, books and textiles to hardwood flooring, window jambs and ceilings can become fodder for termites. Even if you live in a medium-rise condo, you are not far above and out of harm's way because termites are not afraid of heights—they can scale the concrete building and creep through cracks and openings in the structure. For owners of homes or property, this means hundreds of thousands worth of structural repairs, priceless, irreplaceable properties turned to powder, and many sleepless nights.

Breakthrough technology

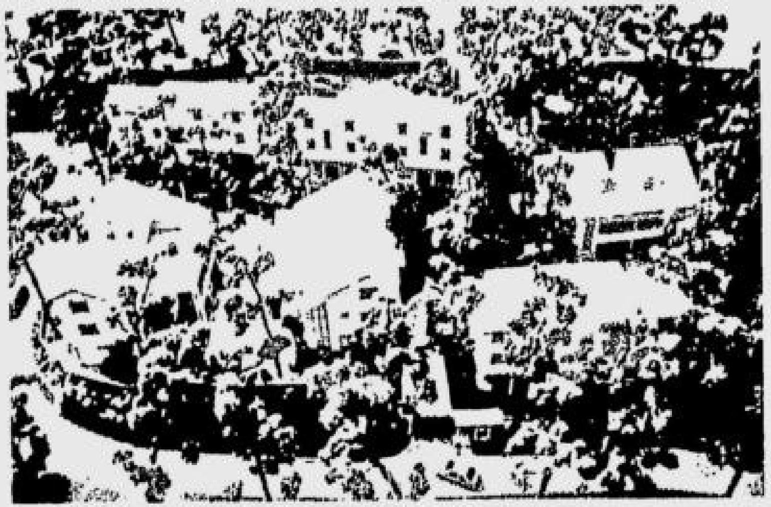
Now total termite colony elimination is possible in the Philippines. US-based Dow AgroSciences developed Sentricon System, a breakthrough technology that has been taking the pest control industry by storm.

Sentricon wipes out entire colonies by taking advantage of natural termite behavior and getting them where they live. It acts like an early warning device and a treatment method, and works in three steps. First, pest control professionals will place monitoring stations in the soil around the sites, checking these regularly for signs of termite activity. Second, as soon as termites begin feeding in the station, Sentricon technicians will replace the monitoring unit with a Baitube device that contains termite bait (the substance prevents them from molting, so that they are unable to grow, causing them to die). The termites will unsuspectingly summon their nest mates to the site by leaving special scent trails that lead to the bait. Finally, once the colony is eliminated, the bait will be replaced with new monitoring devices, which the technician will inspect closely and regularly for renewed termite activity.

Environment friendly

Hexaflumuron, the bait material in Sentricon, is the first pest control product in the United States to receive "fast track" registration from the Environmental Protection Agency in the new "Reduced Pesticide Risk" category. Sentricon was also awarded by the Clinton administration the US Presidential Green Chemistry Award for its commitment to keep the environment safe. The technology is effective, odorless, absolutely nondisruptive, environment friendly and safe which makes it ideal for homes and hospitals, drugstores and food establishments, schools and libraries, museums and warehouses, clubhouses and high-rise buildings.

Termites can literally gobble up your house and leave you homeless. Call (32) 867-9797 or visit the website at www.sentricon.com and find out why Sentricon is being used to protect the White House, the US Statue of Liberty, some Philippine historical sites, and millions of homes and properties across America, Europe and Asia.



AN EXCLUSIVE community of six luxury duplex units

Angelonia Townhomes recaptures old Baguio

THE GLORIES and charm of old Baguio are being revived in an exclusive enclave that caters to individuals and families desiring for an exceptionally attractive and comfortable Baguio residence.

Angelonia Homes was recently launched at the Tower Club by development managers Property Partnership Inc., on behalf of Angelonia Corp. The occasion formally unveiled the first completed duplex, including a model unit.

Angelonia Townhomes is an exclusive community of six luxury duplex units, surrounded by Camp John Hay, the Baguio Country Club, Teacher's Camp and farther back, Wright Park. It is located at the corner of Paterno and Poblete Streets, Barangay South Drive, Baguio City, has a lot area of 3,653 square meters.

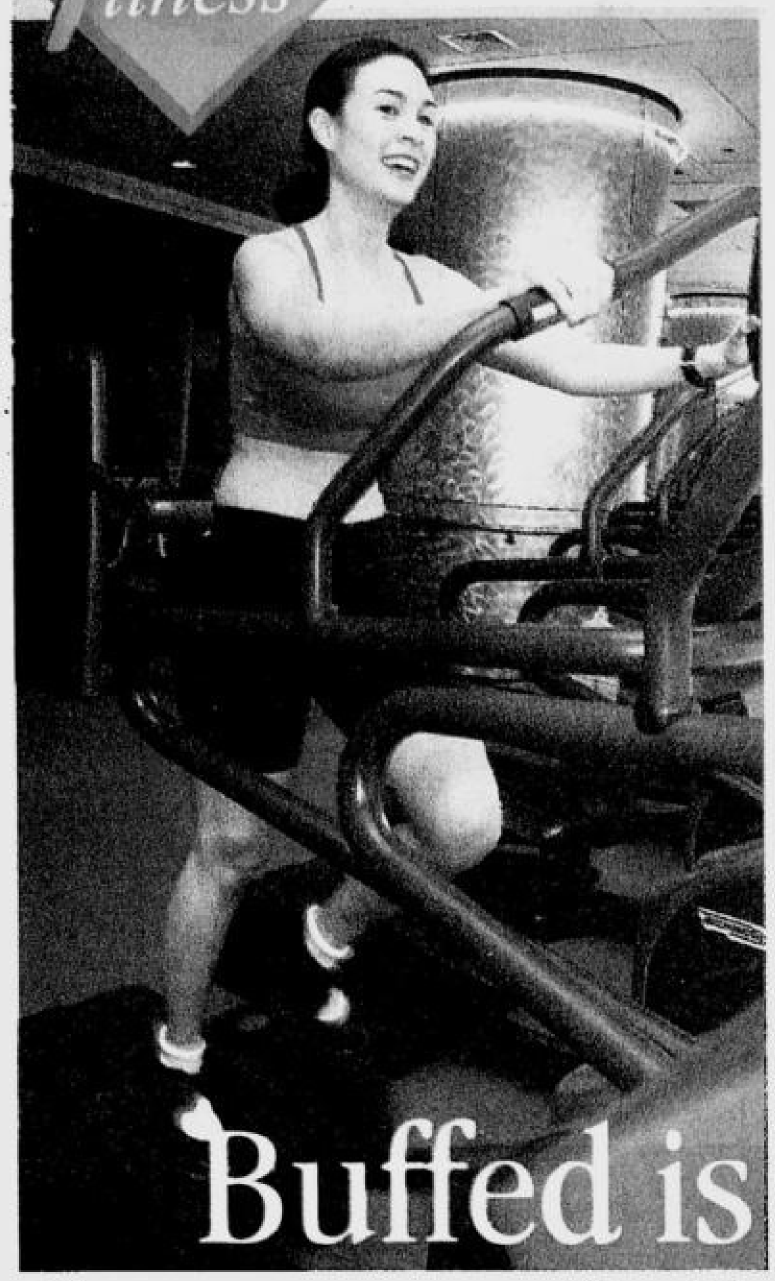
The Angelonia grounds are divided into three landscaped elevations, each reinforced with perineter ripraps and revetments. Each level has its own service road leading to a cluster of two duplex units, each with two stories.

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Fitness

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso



Buffed is beautiful

Gretchen Barretto
is not happy with just
a lovely face;
she's training to get
a great bod

By Cathy Babao Guballa
Photos by Betoy Johnson

GRETCHEN Barretto has something new to look forward to each day. "It's like going to school," says Gretchen of her daily routine at The Spa at RCBC Plaza, where she spends an average of two to three hours a day working out.

Since November the lovely and now buffed Gretchen has been sweating out to achieve a leaner and meaner physique. Not that there was anything wrong with the one she used to possess. "The biggest compliment for me is when I hear people say, 'Wow, you're so fit!' or 'Wow, you're so macho,' " Barretto says with childlike glee.

Blessed with one of the loveliest faces ever to grace the screen, in three months Barretto has worked her body into one that is lean and yet feminine. "I'm just doing this to look healthy. I like the 'cuts.' My clothes fit even better," she says. When asked if she has aspirations of competing or putting her form to the test, she lets out a girlish shriek and says, "Tony will kill me."

Upper body

Gretchen has forever been conscious of her weight and has, at all times, led a healthy life. "Oatmeal and yogurt have always been a part of my life. I don't drink or smoke and I try to get in eight to 10 hours of sleep every night," she says.

BUFFED/ p.C4

SUCCESS GUARANTEED
after our Famous Training
Enroll in a Package - P 2,300 Per Course Only!
- Speech Dynamics Develop & Master Oral Skills
- Practical Grammar & Conversations Fluency and Mastery of the English Language
- Public Speaking & Confidence Building
- Rapid Reading & Comprehension
- Writing Skills
- Personality in Action

Scheds: Weekdays, Saturdays, or Sundays

WCT Kiddie Academy
(From 3 to 12 years old) Speech, Theater Arts, Grammar, English Fluency, Reading & Comprehension, Character Bldg. & Personality Development)
Saturdays 9-12 NN or 1-4 PM

Corporate Training & Private Tutoring are available

WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEME OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY

LEGARDA, SAMPALOC
2600 Rizal Hall, Arellano University
736-7656
736-7657
736-7644

SINCE 1967

ORTIGAS CENTER
687-7139
687-7149
638-8034

FOR SCAR & SKIN WHITENING!
- Dark Spots
- Pigmentation
- Acne / Pimples Marks
- Post Pregnancy Marks
- Skin Whitening & Peeling

Other Services:
- Pimple/Acne Treatment
- Warts Removal
- French Technique Faciale

dermi'e total'le
Paris, France
Skin and Body Care Center

MAKATI BRANCH
12 D Century Plaza Cond., Perea St., Legaspi Village
QUEZON CITY BRANCH
Suit 315 Pasda Mansion,Panay Ave., cor Timog Ave.

CARLO MUÑOZ
Commercial Model/Actor

LEANDRO MUÑOZ
Actor / Commercial Model

For more details please call: 812-7901 / 812-8044 / 373-0614

An Idyllic setting to soothe & quiet your senses.

To revive, to recharge and to rejuvenate before the next challenge.

Orient Day Spa's exclusive range of spa treatments will ensure that your every need is met.

That you will leave our Urban retreat rejuvenated and refreshed.

COMPLETE SPA & SALON SERVICES

ORIENT DAY SPA

For more information, call
850-9055 • 850-8841 • 850-9666

ALABANG
3/F Doña Marta Building
Alabang-Zapote Road,
Alabang, Muntinlupa

QUEZON CITY
24 Mahusay St.,
corner Maginhawa St.,
UP Village Diliman

MAKATI CITY
Garden Level, Corinthian
Plaza Paseo de Roxas,
Greenbelt Makati

WEIGH LESS CENTER

Free use of day spa and massage when you enrol*

MENDEZ MEDICAL GROUP

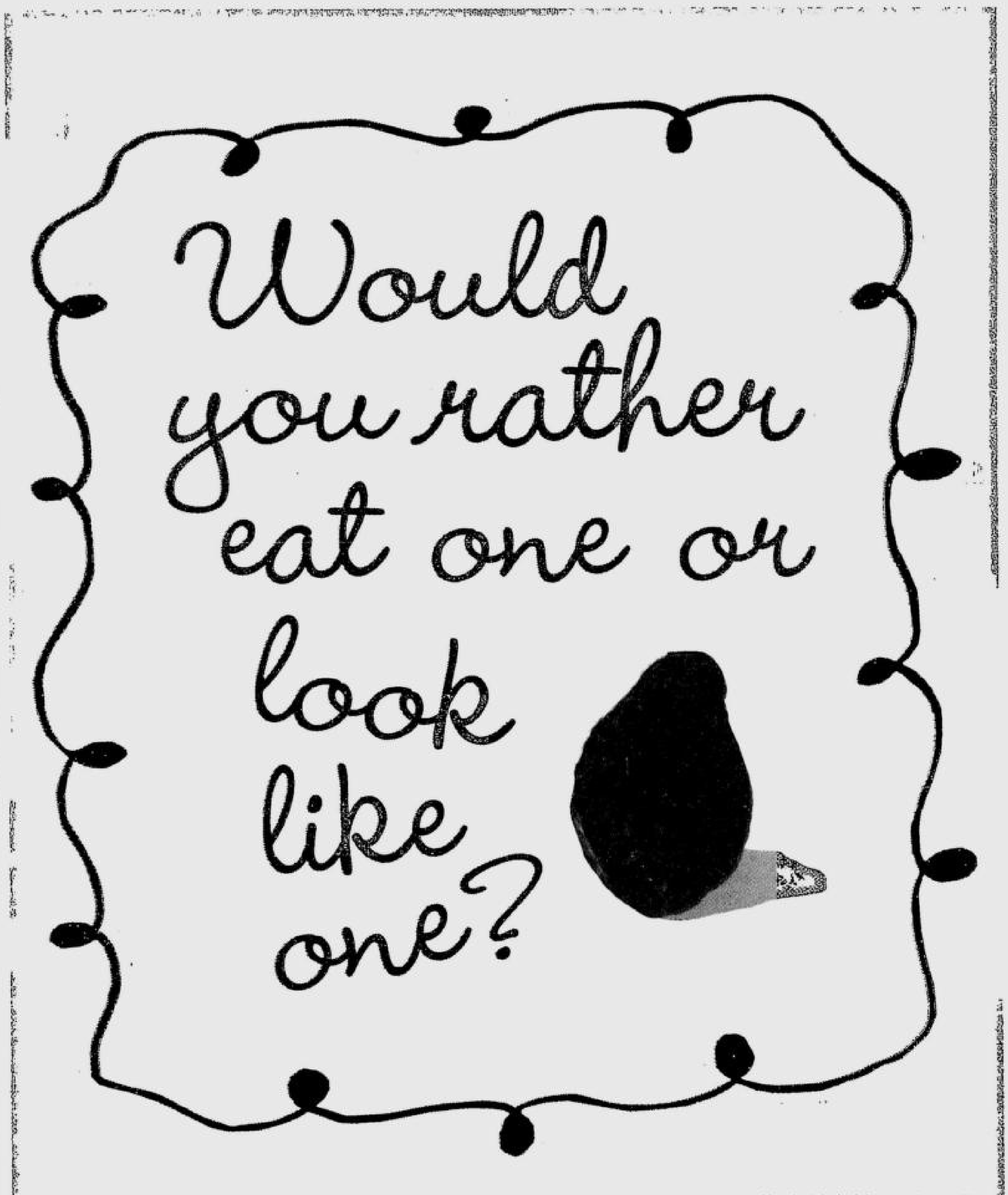
The stars have discovered a new beauty haven.

please call for more details*
373-0766 / 374-2437 / 371-[illegible]
371-8887 / 37[illegible]-3365 / 3[illegible]-3366

WEIGH LESS CENTER & SPA [illegible]
CLINICA MANILA [illegible]
PATIENT FIRST MEDICAL CENTER [illegible]
HEALTHWAY MEDICAL CLINIC [illegible]
BINONDO WEIGH LESS CENTER
ALABANG BRANCH [illegible]
MINDANAO AVENUE BRANCH [illegible]
CEBU HOLDINGS [illegible]
PAMPANGA CLINIC [illegible]
DAVAO BRANCH [illegible]

ALL CLIENTS ARE SCHEDULED BY APPOINTMENT*

DAYS HOTEL
World's Largest and Fastest Growing Hotel Chain
Php 950 NET / PERSON
(QUADRUPLE SHARING)
FOR LIVE-IN SEMINAR
(MINIMUM OF 20 PAX)
TAGAYTAY / BATANGAS / PAMPANGA / CEBU
INCLUSION:
OVERNIGHT STAY
FULL-BOARD MEAL (PLATED)
FREE USE OF FUNCTION ROOM
FREE FLOWING HOT COFFEE / TEA
* SUBJECT TO ROOM AVAILABILITY
* PROMO VALIDITY: FEB 1 TO MARCH 31, 2002
SALES DEPARTMENT
Sunette Tower, Durban St. Cor. Makati Ave. Makati City
Tel. No.: 897-2004 to 07 / 897-1111 Fax : 895-8805
DAYS HOTEL TAGAYTAY
Tel. No.: 843-6813 / (046) 413-2400
Fax No.: (046) 413-2410
DAYS HOTEL BATANGAS
Tel. No.: (043) 980-7321/980-8499/
980-2886/300-7436-38
Fax No.: (043) 980-8338
DAYS HOTEL PAMPANGA
Tel. No.: 843-6478/(045) 963-5440-47
Fax No.: (045) 963-5440
DAYS HOTEL CEBU
Tel. No.: (032) 340-7890/341-0476-77
495-5381,82,83,86
Fax No.: (032) 341-0476
http://www.dayshotel.ph



Would you rather eat one or look like one?

Surely, you'd much rather take the plum role for being wrinkle-free. With *Healthy Options*, you can choose from a wide range of all-natural beauty and food products to help you minimize the ill-effects of ageing. To look and feel healthy, trust only *Healthy Options*. Or shrivel up and ...

Healthy Options
www.healthyoptions.com.ph

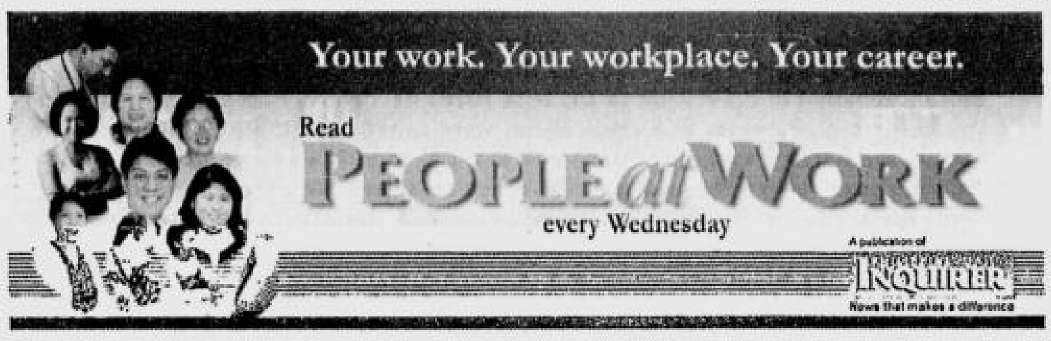
Shangri-La Plaza, Edsa • Rustan's Supermarket, Makati • Festival Supermall, Alabang • SM City, North Edsa • SM City, Manila • Greenbelt, Makati • SM Megamall, Edsa • Ayala Center, Cebu

Please fill out this coupon and present at any *Healthy Options* branch to get a SPECIAL GIFT.

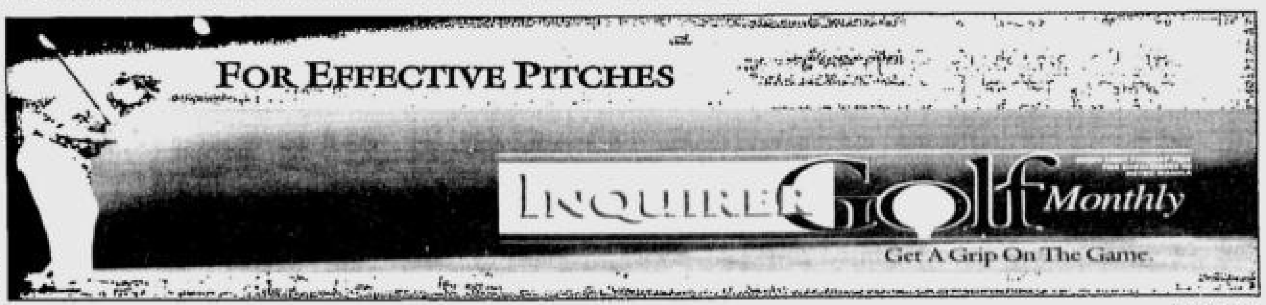
Personal Information
Name: ______ SURNAME FIRST NAME M.I. Birthday: __/__/__ MM DD YYYY
Address: ______ NO. STREET VILLAGE MUNICIPALITY CITY ZIP CODE
☎ ______ ______ ______

Do you have any of the following?
Please check all that apply to you.
○ Arthritis
○ Diabetes
○ Weight problems
○ Hypertension
○ Food allergies
○ Heart ailment
○ Liver problems
○ Menopause
○ Others ______

Are you a *Healthy Options* customer? ○ yes ○ no



Your work. Your workplace. Your career.
Read PEOPLE at WORK every Wednesday
A publication of INQUIRER
News that makes a difference



FOR EFFECTIVE PITCHES
INQUIRER Golf Monthly
Get A Grip On The Game.

RN79284

FAMI volunteers at the reception hosted by Unilever Phils.

RONNIE Alejandro (standing) with Aurora Pijuan and Christina Belton

PHOTOS: BETOY JOHNSON

It's mission accomplished for Fil-Am medics and volunteers

THE 4TH annual medical and surgical mission of the New York- based Filipino American Medical Inc. (Fami) provided medical services for more than 8,000 patients, including 30 surgery cases, brought $.5 million worth of medicine and provided P100,000 worth of local medicine.

The group, composed of medical doctors and health service professionals, both from America and the Philippines, went to Makati City's Ospital ng Makati for three days. From Makati, they traveled to Laoag City courtesy of Baliwag Transit for eight hours straight and after an hour's rest, went straight to the General Roque Ablan Sr. Memorial Hospital to accomplish their mission. Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. hosted a dinner for the group.

Upon their return to Manila the volunteers provided free medical services and distributed medicine at the Malacañang Clinic for another two days. Lectures on current medical trends were also given by Fami during this mission.

A Barrio Fiesta reception for the group was hosted by Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay and his wife Elenita Binay. Imelda Ongsiako Cojuangco also hosted a dinner for the group at her Forbes Park residence.

After the Malacañang mission, Howard and Christina Belton of Unilever Phils., which had donated liquid medicines and hygiene products, hosted the traditional appreciation reception with a "Fiesta Filipina" patio, complete with dances and music from the world-renowned Ramon Obusan Folkloric Group, singer Ramon Acoymo and violinist John Lesaca.

Among the guests were: Alejandro Santos, Mellie Ablaza, Ben Farrales, Nene Leonor, Roy Gonzales, Ambassador Sedfrey and Josefina Ordoñez, Rep. Teddy Boy and Louie Locsin, lawyer Jojo and Baby Bunag, David and Nelia Son, Marilou Arroyo, Noel and Lally Trinidad, Robert and Tina Jacinto, Nonon Padilla, Mike Santos, Jojie Mayshle, Martin Lopez, Rosalinda Roman, Josee Mayo, Aurora Pijuan, Julius Magno, Karina Bolasco, Mari Tuason, Gil Portes, Gilbert Perez, Dr. Tony Protacio, Dr. Oding Reyes, Romeo Tankiang, Ramoncito Locsin, Jika Dalupan, Ed and Nona Lopez, Thelma Tolentino, Pitoy Moreno, Mayor Jejomar and Elenita Binay, and former first lady Imelda Romualdez-Marcos.

Heading this year's mission were Niles Perlas, founder and chair, and two leading Filipino-American doctors, Antonio Calanog and Lestrino Baquiran. Their volunteer medics were Dr. Robert Ulseth, Dr. Thippa Ramraju, Dr. John Doolan, Dr. Michael Castellano, Dr. Dzuy Le, Dr. David Kanuck, Dr. Cephas Swamidous, Dr. David Lee, Dr. Jesus Comedido, Dr. Jose Padama, Dr. Benjamin Urrutia, Dr. Anna Marie Medina, Dr. Iaennec Baquiran and Dr. Benedicto San Pedro.

Support staff included Marietta Santos, Leus Perlas, Maria Mamawal, Susa Calanog, Susana Sarangaya, Marissa Olmos, Ignacio Ocampo, Elizabeth Piracha, Amelia Piguerra, Benedicta Muldong, Rmoy Reyes, Delphin Edralin, Lucila Sabroso, Silva Toleda, Nancy San Pedro, Rodrigo Trapane, Demetrius Mayo, Pamphie Quiazon, Teresa Galang, Nelson Celis, Amado Malacaman Jr., Karol Celis, Ma. Bernadette Mamawal, Sally Mamawal, Karen Quiazon, Ramon de Luna, Juliet Mamawal, Benjamin Mamawal, Manuel Cruz, Marilyn Saavedra, Maria Lourdes Estella, Marites Contreras, Ma. Eura Mamawal, Christianne Valdez, Nona Lopez and Lorli Villanueva.

The fifth-year mission scheduled for March 2003 will focus on cardiological diseases, both in Manila and the provinces.

MELLY Ablaza, Ronnie Alejandro, Joji Macapagal and Chito Macapagal

IMELDA Marcos and Marietta Santos

BEN Farrales and Howard Belton

Take Charge Doc!
Nicky S. Montoya, M.D.

MEDICard

Looking to learn more about your benefits under your MEDICard coverage? Do you want to be clear on the procedures, which allow you to avail of MEDICard's services? Get your information straight from MEDICard's Medical Director, DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA every Tuesday.

FAQs (frequently asked questions)

I consulted one of your accredited doctors and was advised to undergo a battery of laboratory tests to "rule out" my illness. He informed me that the procedure has to be checked with and approved by MEDICard. Why is this so?

A number of illnesses may more or less exhibit identical symptoms, which may give doctors an impression on what the underlying illness is, but not a thorough diagnosis. To *"rule-out"* other possibilities, doctors usually prescribe a battery of laboratory tests and diagnostic procedures. The results of these tests provide doctors with crucial data to arrive at a diagnosis. But in instances wherein the impression falls under those that are exclusions or not covered by your HMO program, your *"rule-out tests"* may not be covered pending the final diagnosis. You may pay for the examinations first. MEDICard will reimburse you of the costs incurred, based on agreement provisions and limits, if *the "ruled-out"* final diagnosis is otherwise and is of a covered illness.

Meet your MEDICard Team

Renowned doctor, **Dr. Julius "Don" J. Dalupang** has been a MEDICard medical service provider for more than 5 years now. Dr. Dalupang specializes in Pulmonary Medicine, and subspecializes in Interventional Pulmonology. He received both his degree in Medicine and training for his specialization in UST. and his subspecialization training at the University of California, USA. He is currently a Fellow to the Philippine College of Physicians and the Philippine College of Chest Physicians. Doc Don is noted for his training in doing YAG laser resection of malignant and benign central airway obstructions. He is the head of the Bronchoscopy and Special Procedures Unit of the Central Respiratory Medicine at UST. Outside of his profession, he is known for his love for antiques. He is also a family man and spends most of his free time with his wife, Carmelita and their daughters, Jillian and Jula. Visit him for your consultation needs at the Capitol Medical Center, room 1104, every Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2 to 5 PM and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 AM to 12 noon.

One of the major considerations that **Dr. Marita Villareal-Que** had before pursuing her specialization in ENT-Head and Neck Surgery was whether she would still have ample time for her family. Now with over 6 years of experience in her specialization, she has proven to have earned professional growth and at the same time, been a loving and responsible wife and mother of two. She earned her degree in Medicine from UERM-MMC and her specialization training from East Avenue Medical Center, graduating in 1995. Now based at St. Luke's Medical Center, she is one of our recent additions to our top-brass medical service providers. Doc Maritz is a Diplomate to the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery and a Fellow to the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery. Drop by her clinic at the South Tower, room 713 every Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10 AM to 12 noon for your consultations.

MEDICard's Medical Coordinator at Medina General Hospital in Misamis Occidental is **Dr. Maximo A. Mintalar.** Dr. Mintalar finished Medicine from South Western University and earned his residency training for his specialization for General Surgery in Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center. Dr. Mintalar has been the center for all of MEDICard members' availments and concerns since our accreditation with the hospital. Outside his busy schedule, he takes time to enjoy his favorite sport, biking and quality time with his wife Pearlie and their children. For all your medical needs at Medina General Hospital, visit the MEDICard Medical Coordinator's office from Mondays to Saturdays, 8 AM to 5 in the afternoon.

We encourage all MEDICard members to voice out their concerns and issues at hand. BE HEARD AND BE READ. You can write DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA at 9/F Sagittarius Bldg. H.V. De la Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or e-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com. For feedback on availment of our services, e-mail us at feedback@medicardphils.com

For individual or family membership inquiries, please call 818-2161 and look for Ms. Joy Mendiola. For group or corporate membership, please call 817-5136, 817-4985 or 817-5127 and look for a membership consultant.

TEXT MEDICard for your queries: 0917-7518365 (Globe) or 0919-2476240 (Smart). Please don't forget to include your complete name and landline number where MEDICard could reach you. *Log on to www.medicardphils.com*

MEDICard is the first and only HMO in the Philippines and the whole Asian region to be ISO 9002 certified.

ISO 9002

Fashion show to benefit Bantay Bata

BANTAY BATA
163

HARRISON Plaza, the country's first one-stop shopping mall will be hosting a fashion show/party called "Fashion with a Cause" at Dish, 3/L Power Plant Mall, Rockwell, on March 2, in cooperation with Rustan's Commercial Corp., Franck Provost, McDonald's, Shakey's, Figaro Coffee Company, Subway, Dunkin Donuts, E! Entertainment Television and MYX.

Beneficiary is the Bantay Bata Foundation, a charitable organization affiliated with ABS-CBN.

The event's producer, Antonia Martel, a 17-year-old high school senior at the International School Manila, learned about the foundation through her school's outreach programs. "Most people my age don't realize that there are so many children out there in need of our help and attention. Hopefully this event will inspire others to do something for those children who are not as fortunate as us," Antonia says. Assisting her is Marga Villanueva.

The fashion show featuring 20 of today's top models starts at 8:30 p.m. It will showcase young, hip brands such as Mango, Top Shop London, Urban & Co., Armani Exchange, DKNY Jeans and Rustan's U, as well as watches from Techno-Marine. Makeup will be provided by MAC. Direction is by Ogee Atos.

After the fashion show, NBK resident DJ Manolet Dario and DJ Elmer Dado will provide pumping dance music for the rest of the evening. Open bar will be at 8-10 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door at P300 only.

This would be a perfect chance to see beautiful people, great clothes and dance to the sounds of Manila's top DJs—all for a good cause.

BELEN Lovina Ticzon-Martel (fourth from left), chair of Belco Marketing Inc. and director of Marsteel Consolidated Inc., concluded her term of office as chair of the Special Events II Division of the Cancer Educational Membership and Fund Drive of the Philippine Cancer Society Inc. (PCS), with the presentation of Belco's donation of P.5 million to Dr. Mita Pardo de Tavera, PCS president, and Dr. Roberto M. Paterno, PCS chair. Funds were raised from the trade exhibits held at the Garden Square of Harrison Plaza, the country's first one-stop shopping mall, where Martel is executive vice president. Also present at the Century Park Hotel during the turnover to the PCS were Belco Marketing Inc. officers (from left) Zenaida Avila, Myrna de la Cruz, Rossina Lovina Ticzon, president Benny T. Clemente, Ophie T. Clemente and Juliet Lovina Ticzon.

Do you need to see a doctor before you pick up that dumbbell?

WELL AND GOOD

Tina Aboitiz Juan

THE AMERICAN Heart Association, the American College of Sports Medicine and many other reputable medical organizations now recognize a sedentary lifestyle as health hazard. The goal, then, of any exercise program is to enhance the quality of your life. However, for certain people, exercise can be counterproductive because of existing health conditions.

Responsible fitness centers require you to fill a health history form to determine whether you need to see a doctor or not before you start to exercise. If a staff member feels you have a condition that requires you to see a doctor before you start exercising, please don't take it as a personal insult (it's amazing but some people get very irritated by this). In fact, you should congratulate yourself for finding a professionally run gym.

What if you wish to exercise on your own or the fitness center you want to join doesn't do any health screening? Here's what you need to know to protect yourself.

These guidelines from the American Council on Exercise and the American College of Sports Medicine will help you determine whether you need to pay a visit to your family doctor before embarking on a more physically active lifestyle.

What kind of exercise are you planning to do?

The first question you have to answer is what kind of exercise are you planning on starting. More specifically, at what exercise intensity will you be working out?

Low-to-moderate intensity is usually defined as an intensity that can be sustained very comfortably for a long period of time (60 minutes or more). An example of this type of exercise is walking at your normal pace.

Vigorous intensity means an intensity that significantly raises both your heart and breathing rate. It is usually performed for 20-30 minutes before fatigue starts to set in. An example would be a singles tennis match.

If you are planning to do exercise with a vigorous or high intensity and you are a man over 40 or a woman over 50, you need to get a medical exam first. No matter what your age is, if you are planning to do vigorous or high intensity exercise and you have two or more coronary artery disease (CAD) risk factors, you also need to get a medical exam. If you are not sure about the CAD risk factors and how they apply to you, check with your family doctor.

Most of the time, a medic will tell you to go ahead with your exercise as long as you do it slowly, gradually and at your own pace

Coronary artery disease risk factors

- Men over age 45, women over age 55
- Family history of heart attack or sudden death
- Current cigarette smoking
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Diabetes
- Physical inactivity

If you are only planning to do exercise with a low-to-moderate intensity, you don't need to see your doctor yet, but you do need to answer a second set of questions before you start exercising.

More questions

A "yes" answer to any one of the following questions means you should talk with your doctor, by telephone or in person before you start an exercise program. Explain to your doctor the questions you answered with a yes, and what kind of physical activity you are planning to do.

- Have you been told you have a heart condition and should only participate in physical activity recommended by a doctor?
- Do you feel pain (or discomfort) in your chest when you do physical activity? How about when you are not participating in physical activity? While at rest, do you frequently experience fast, irregular heartbeats or very slow beats?
- Do you ever become dizzy and lose your balance, or lose consciousness? Have you fell more than twice in the past year (no matter what the reason is)?
- Do you have a bone or joint problem that could worsen because of physical activity? Do you have pain in your legs or buttocks when you walk?
- Do you take blood pressure or heart medications?
- Do you have any cuts or wounds on your feet that don't seem to heal?
- Have you experienced unexplained weight loss in the past six months?
- Are you aware of any reason you should not participate in physical activity?

Be honest

It's true that most of us do not want to see our doctor unless we really have to so the temptation to be a little less than truthful when answering questionnaires of this sort is very great. Be honest because the one who will suffer the most if anything goes wrong will be you.

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, see your doctor. Don't worry. Most of the time, the doctor will tell you to go ahead and exercise as long as you do it slowly, gradually and at your own pace. In fact, he will usually say, "That's exactly why you need to exercise."

However, sometimes, it can be something serious and at the same time, dangerous if you start an exercise program at this particular time in your life. Be responsible for your own health because nobody else cares more for you than you.

E-mail the author at fitness@ibm.net or write at PDI Lifestyle

ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK

Balanced hamstring curl

STRENGTHENS the buttocks, back of the thighs (hamstrings) and back of the shoulders (rear deltoids). The abdominal and lower back muscles are also strengthened as stabilizers. This is also a good exercise for balance.

Equipment:
Exercise mat.

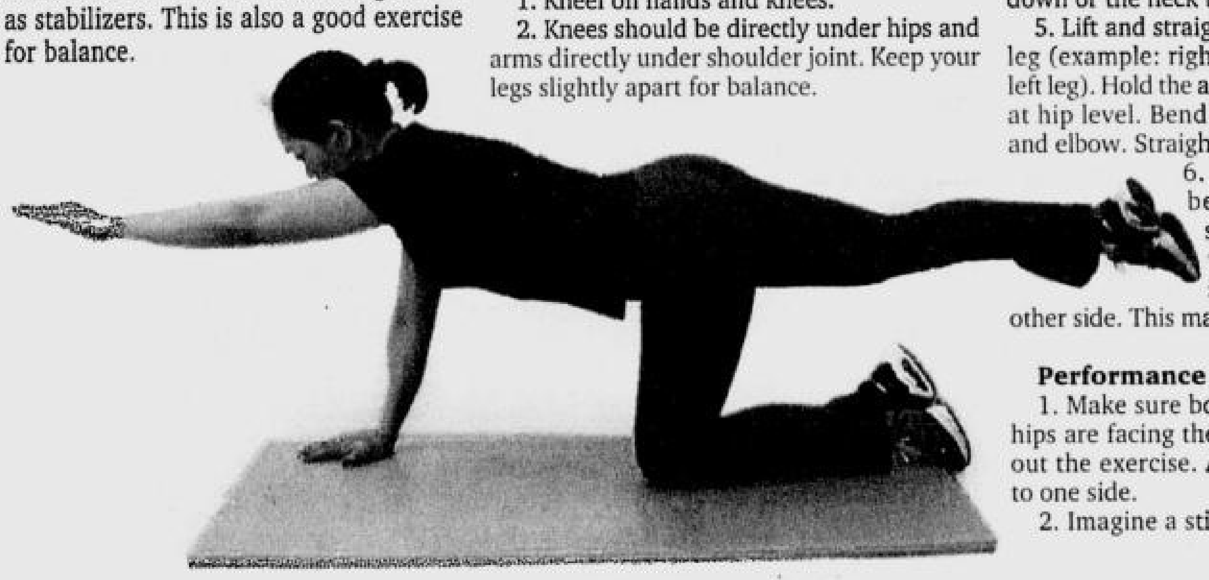
Exercise technique:

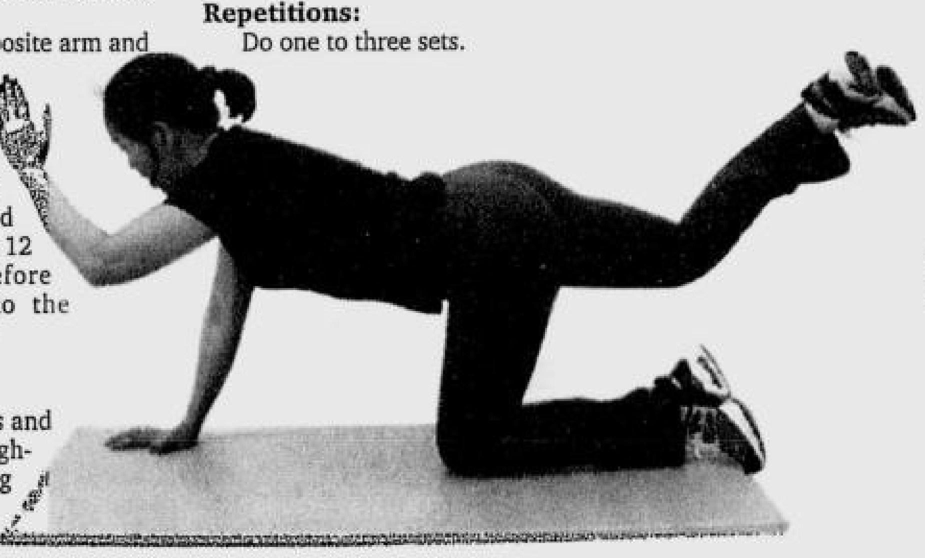
1. Kneel on hands and knees.
2. Knees should be directly under hips and arms directly under shoulder joint. Keep your legs slightly apart for balance.
3. Keep your abdominal and lower back muscles tight throughout the exercise.
4. Your head should be kept in line with your spine. Do not allow the head to hang down or the neck to arch up.
5. Lift and straighten the opposite arm and leg (example: right arm and left leg). Hold the arm and leg at hip level. Bend your knee and elbow. Straighten again.
6. Repeat the bending and straightening 12 times before switching to the other side. This makes one set.

Performance tips:

1. Make sure both shoulders and hips are facing the floor throughout the exercise. Avoid leaning to one side.
2. Imagine a stick balanced along your spine—do not let it fall.
3. Keep squeezing your buttocks to keep your leg held at hip level.

Repetitions:
Do one to three sets.



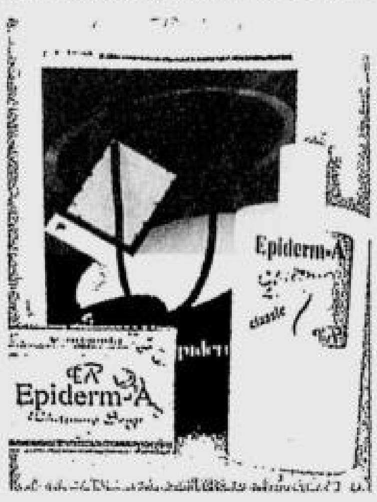


Fabulous skin starts with simple regimen

WEEKLY DOSAGE

BASIC skin care entails regularly cleaning the face, removing makeup before going to bed, eating healthy, getting a good night's sleep and drinking lots of water. These are simple yet effective skin-care measures.

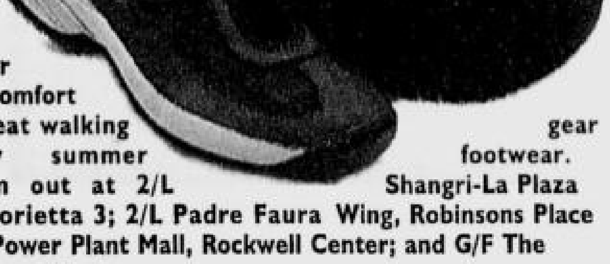
Cetaphil cleansers and moisturizers are created for all skin types. Recommended by most dermatologists, Cetaphil IS fragrance- and lanolin-free, non-comedogenic and Ph-balanced. These don't strip the skin's natural protective barriers that may leave it dry and irritated. Follow these basic skin-care tips and fabulous skin is within your reach.



EPIDERM-A offers 5-percent discounts on its whitening products and a free Epiderm-A charm box. Each box contains Epiderm-A whitening lotion, soap and facial cream in different sizes and variants. Available in supermarkets and department stores nationwide.

CM Star Direct Sales recommends the following personal care products for summer: Citronelle anti-mosquito lotion and Westwood Aromatherapy Cologne Collection. CM Star Products are sold through direct selling. Its other products are Laurentti jewelry, Nutri-Blend herbal food, Star Lumina home care, Derm Secret's skin care and aromatherapy soaps, Westwood personal care and apparel and water purifiers. Call 912-5667 or 913-9066.

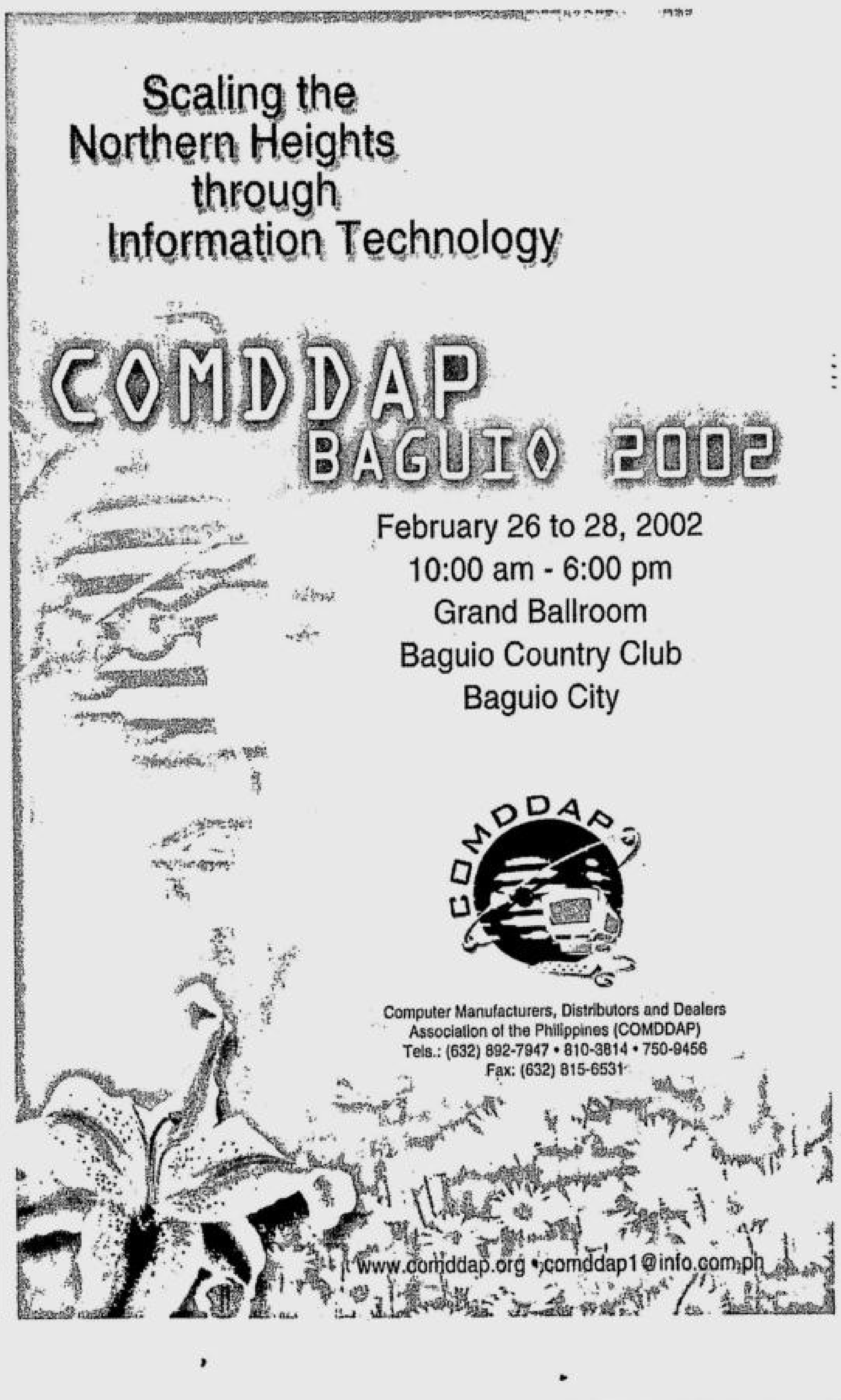
THE SUPER Fiber Tabs dietary supplement by Healthy Options in vegetarian tabs supports colon health and regularity by adding fiber and bulk to the diet. Healthy Options is located at 1/L Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City; Rustan's Supermarket, Makati City; 2/L Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang; G/L Ayala Center, Cebu City; LG/F SM City, North Edsa; 2/L SM City Manila; Greenbelt, Ayala Center, Makati City; and 2/L SM Megamall B, Edsa, Mandaluyong City.



LACOSTE'S mule shoes with Velcro fastening for personalized fit and rubber toe box for comfort make for great walking gear and early summer footwear. Check them out at 2/L Shangri-La Plaza Mall; G/F Glorietta 3; 2/L Padre Faura Wing, Robinsons Place Manila; G/F Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center; and G/F The Podium, Ortigas Center.

San Juan de Dios given ISO certification

THE SAN Juan de Dios Hospital was recently accredited with the most comprehensive ISO 9001:2000 by TUV Product Service. ISO (International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies. This certification places greater emphasis on the organization's quality management systems. San Juan de Dios is the first hospital in the Philippines to be accredited with a comprehensive healthcare certification including its medical division. The San Juan de Dios Hospital is under the administration of the Daughters of Charity and is the country's oldest existing medical institution established in 1578.



Scaling the
Northern Heights
through
Information Technology

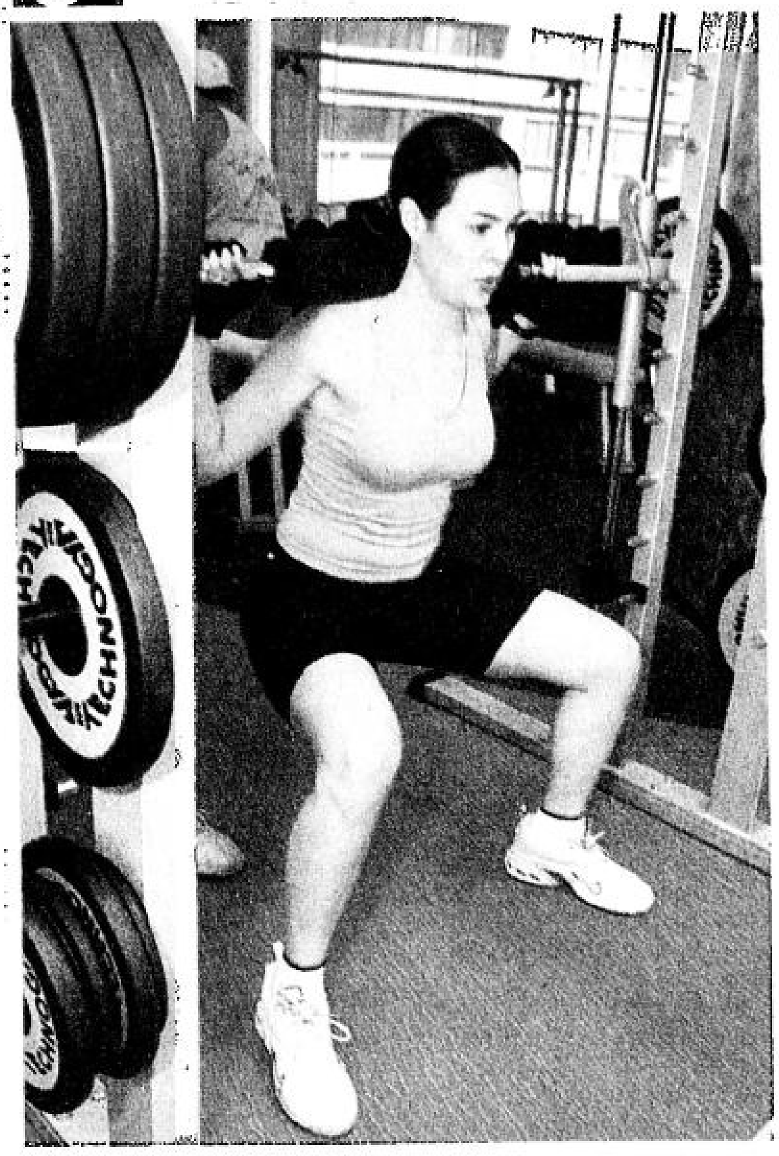
COMDDAP
BAGUIO 2002

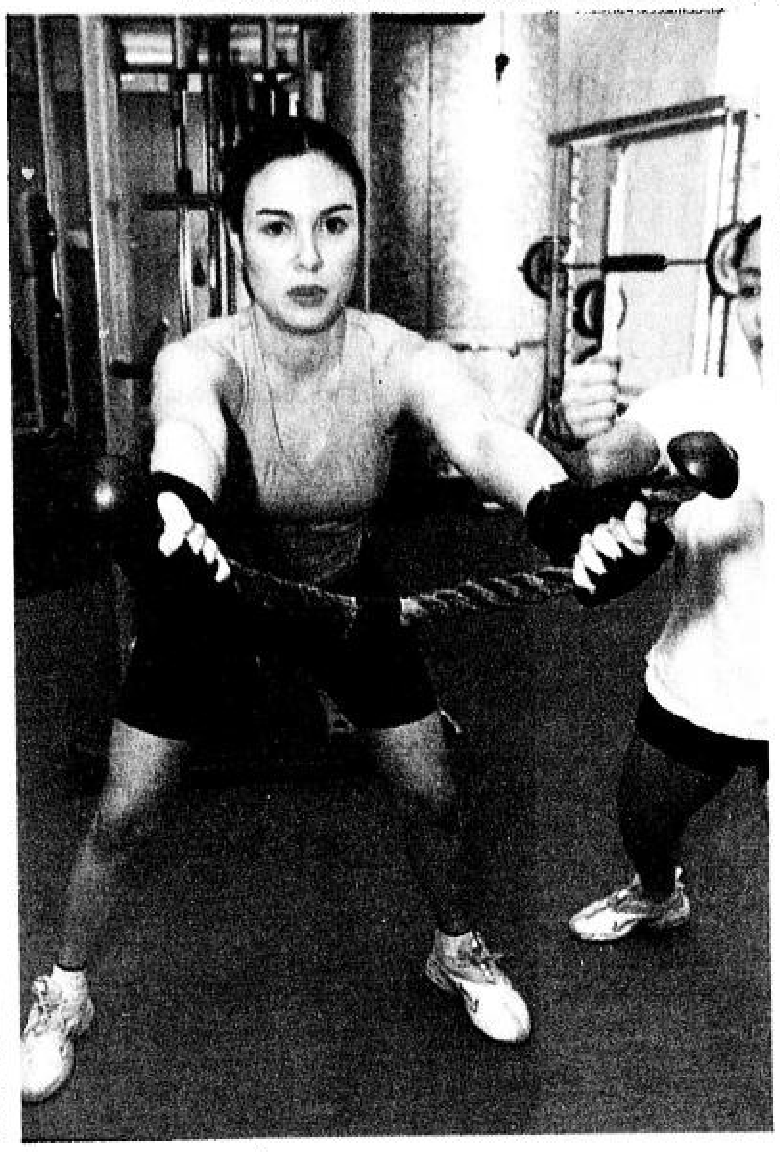
February 26 to 28, 2002
10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Grand Ballroom
Baguio Country Club
Baguio City

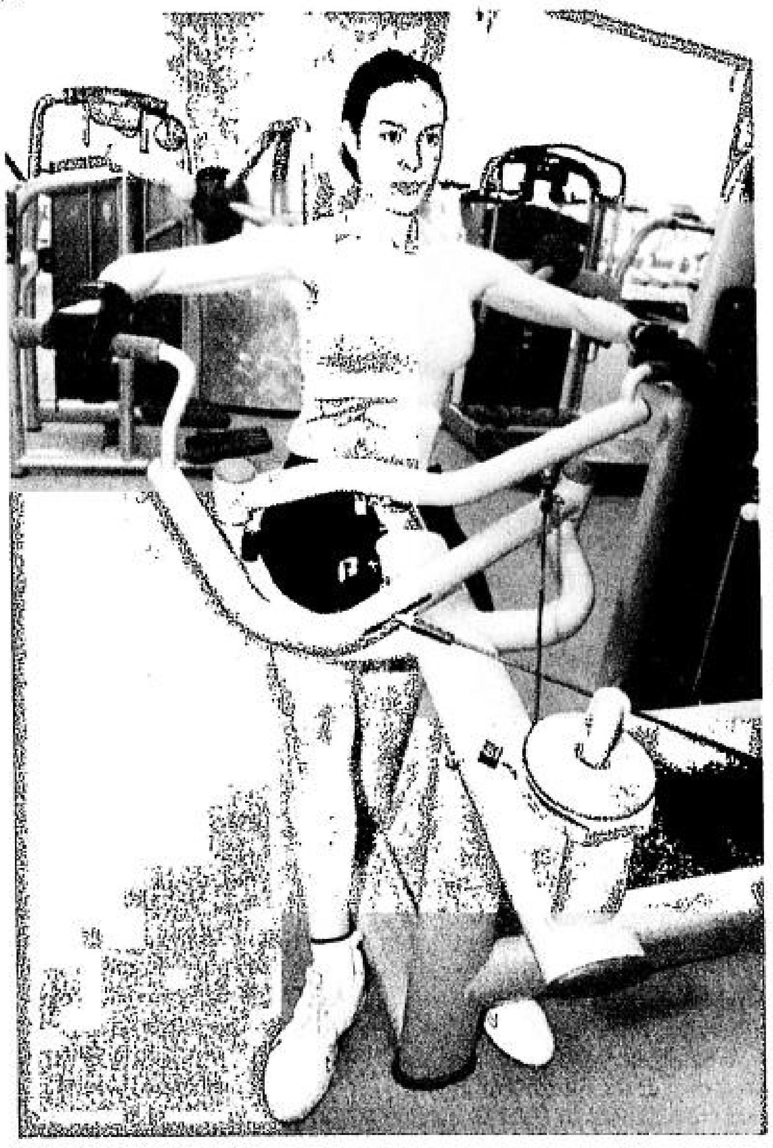
COMDDAP

Computer Manufacturers, Distributors and Dealers
Association of the Philippines (COMDDAP)
Tels.: (632) 892-7947 • 810-3814 • 750-9456
Fax: (632) 815-6531

www.comddap.org • comddap1@info.com.ph


BARRETTO works hard to build her upper body.


SLAVING over exercise


WORKING on her best asset—her trapezius

Buffed is *beautiful*

The biggest compliment for her is when people say, 'Wow, you're so fit!'

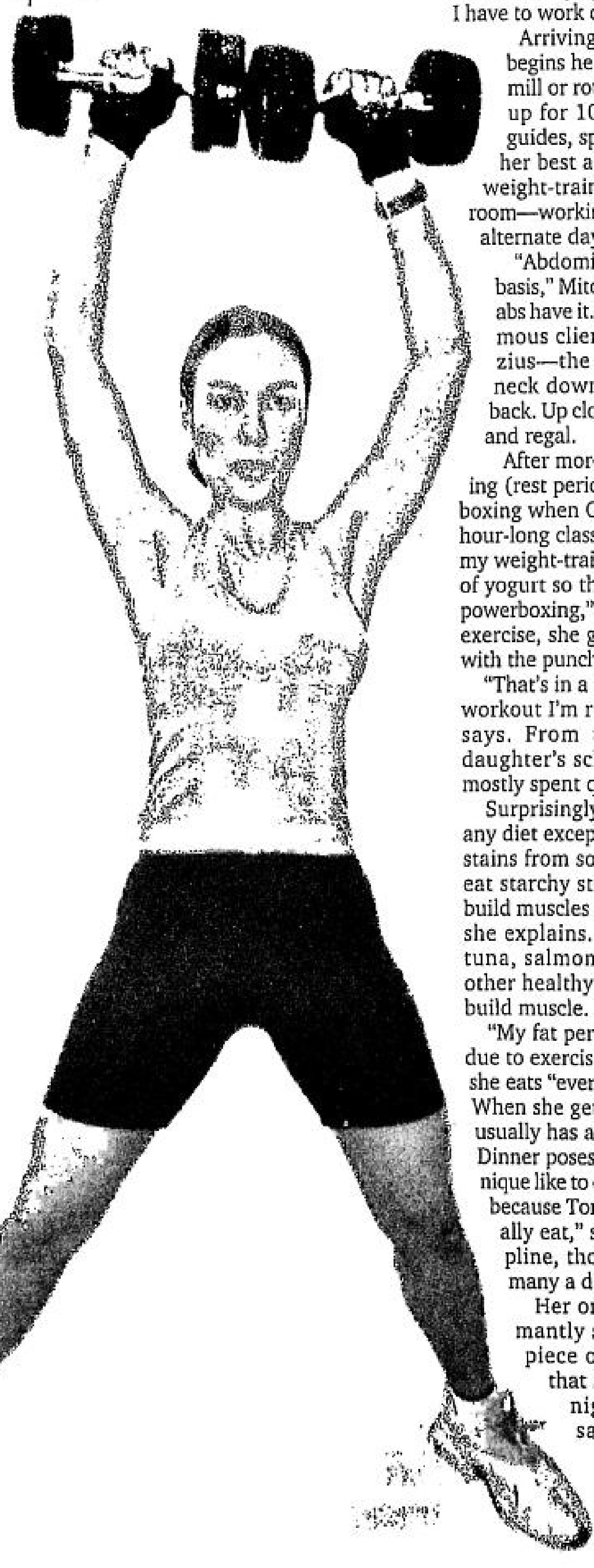
From page C1

"What I'm really working on right now is building my upper body. I'm so small I can fit into my daughter's clothes."

Daughter Dominique, who is almost 7, is a favorite topic for the actress. "She's into sports as well and has this giant trampoline at home. I'm really so happy that ever since I put my heart and soul into this, my loved ones have tried their best to get into it as well," she adds. Aside from her daughter, Barretto cites sister Marjorie, who also now regularly works out in a gym. Partner Tony Cojuangco has been very supportive as well.

"In the beginning I was afraid he wouldn't like it because I remember every time he used to see women with muscles, he would say yuck. Lately though, like over dinner last week and my friends were teasing me about the muscles, he was even the first one to come to my defense," Gretchen recounts. She hopes to inspire him to work out more.

Gretchen's fitness regime began several years ago in the confines of the Forbes Park home she shares with Cojuangco.



"At first I would just walk on the treadmill until I got bored; then I started to run. After that, I started to follow the tae-bo tapes of Billy Blanks. Been there, done that, my body was really looking for more," she says.

Barretto had heard about Vanessa Garcia's powerboxing classes so she decided to seek her out and sign up for classes at the private and, pardon the pun, tony Spa at RCBC Plaza.

Punishing routine

"When I saw Vanessa's body, I said whoa! Suddenly I got so conscious of my own. That's when I decided to vary my fitness routine," she says. After a few sessions she met trainer Mitch Felipe, who now pushes and inspires her daily to give the routine all she's got. "Look at her," Barretto says, referring to Felipe, "She's so tiny but don't be deceived—*lakas niyan*."

Barretto's Monday to Friday routine is quite punishing. "In the beginning, around the first month, I would feel so tired that I really had to take a nap in the afternoon. I also lost my appetite. Now, my appetite's back to normal and so I have to work double time," she says.

Arriving at the gym midmorning, she begins her grueling routine at the treadmill or rotex machine where she warms-up for 10 minutes. Afterward, Felipe guides, spots and cajoles her into doing her best as they go through the various weight-training machines throughout the room—working her upper and lower body on alternate days.

"Abdominal exercises we do on a daily basis," Mitch says. Clearly, on Barretto the abs have it. Felipe says, though, that her famous client's best assets are her trapezius—the muscles that span the upper neck down to her shoulders and upper back. Up close and personal they are strong and regal.

After more than an hour of weight-training (rest periods included), it's on to powerboxing when Gretchen joins Vanessa Garcia's hour-long class. "I usually take a shower after my weight-training regime and take two cups of yogurt so that I'm refreshed and ready for powerboxing," she says. If her body still craves exercise, she goes one-on-one with Felipe or with the punching bag at the gym.

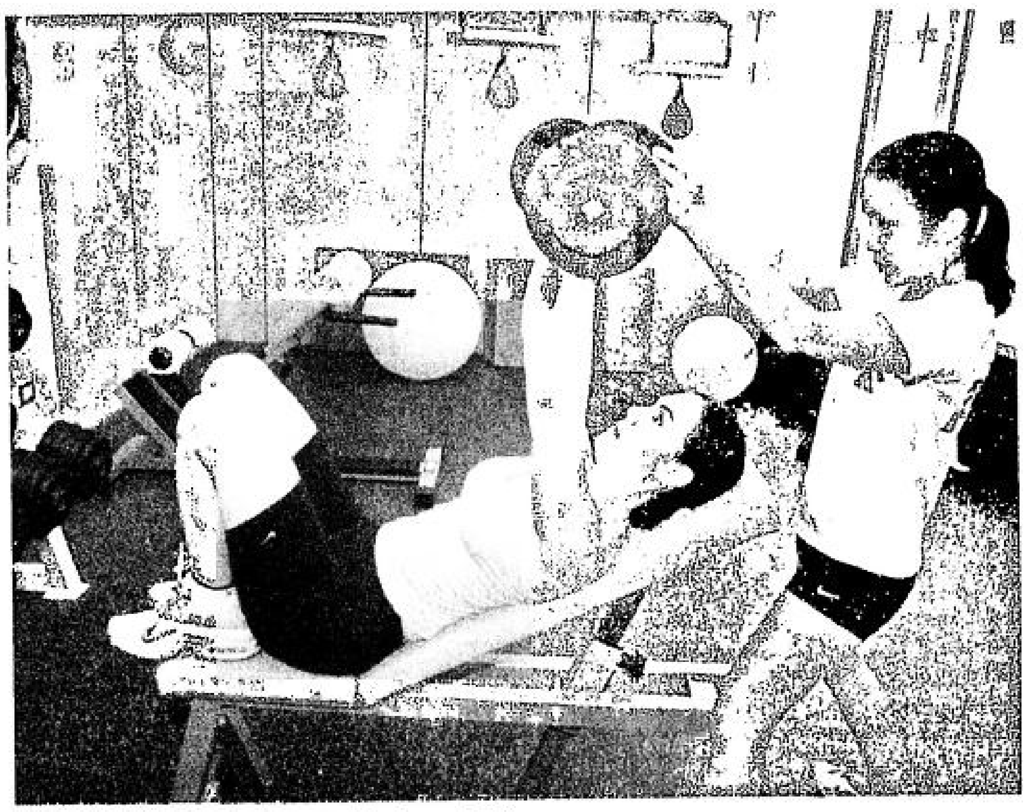
"That's in a rare while. After three hours of workout I'm really pooped for the day," she says. From the gym she heads to her daughter's school and afternoons are now mostly spent quietly at home.

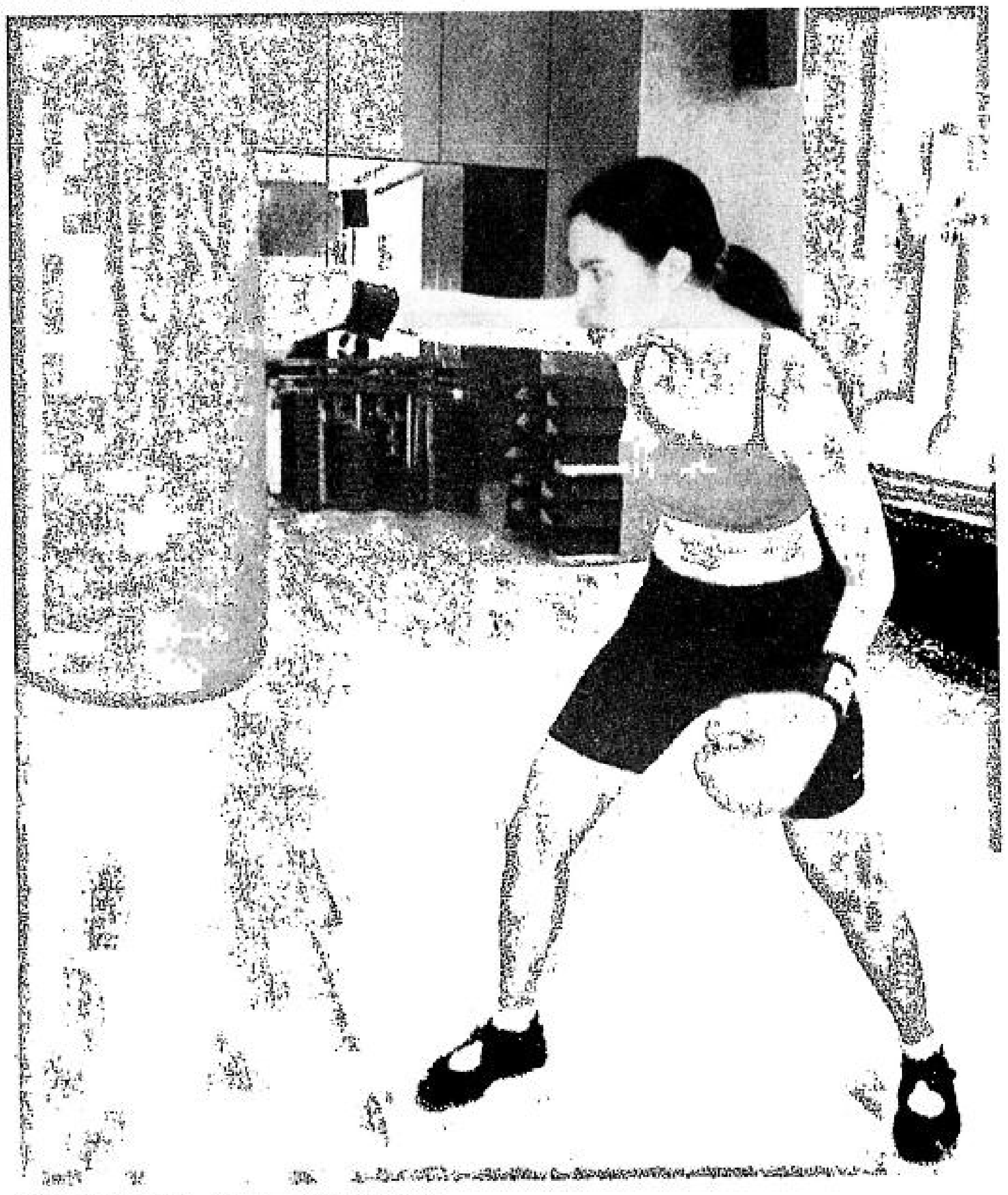
Surprisingly, Gretchen does not adhere to any diet except that nowadays she totally abstains from soda and *patis*. "I usually like to eat starchy stuff but now that I'm trying to build muscles I have to take in more protein," she explains. Thus, Barretto takes a lot of tuna, salmon, cheese (on weekends) and other healthy sources of protein in order to build muscle.

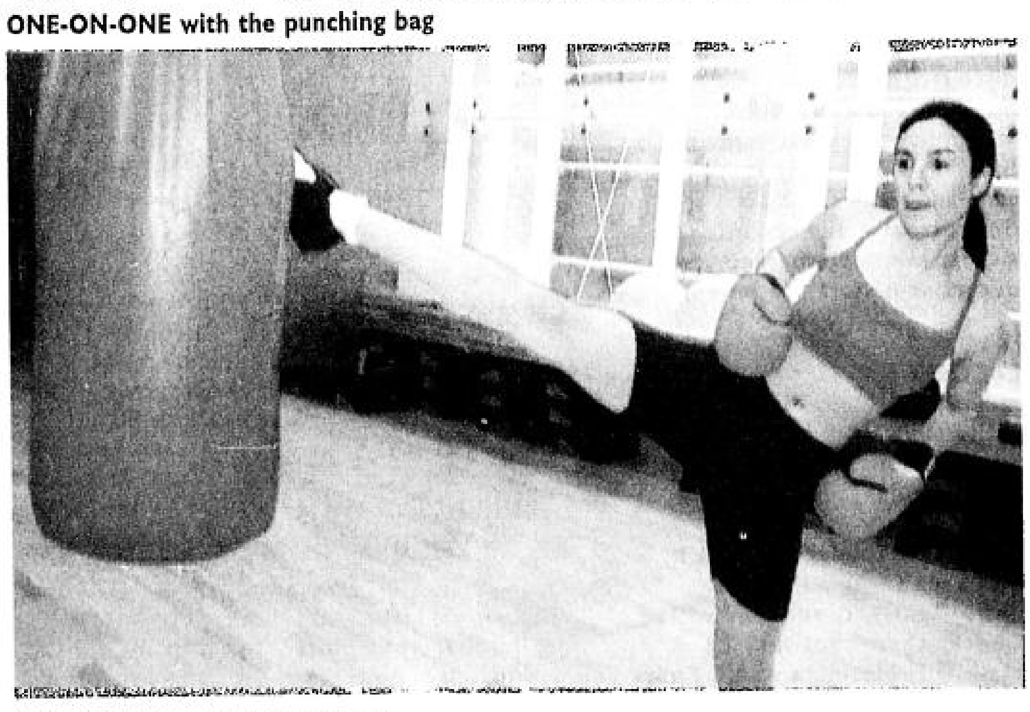
"My fat percentage is excellent and it's all due to exercise," she beams. For a late lunch, she eats "everything—rice, tuna, vegetables," When she gets hungry in the afternoons she usually has a tuna, salmon or egg sandwich. Dinner poses a challenge as Tony and Dominique like to eat. "Fiesta is how I call that meal because Tony and my daughter eat, as in really eat," she says. Self-control and discipline, though, have gotten her through many a dinner without going overboard.

Her one indulgence, which she adamantly says she will not give up, is a piece of Godiva or Patchi chocolate that she eats before going to bed at night. "I don't deprive myself," says Gretchen. "Life is short. I want to have a life and I like to eat that's why I slave over exercise."

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.net.ph


A TRAINER helps Barretto with the weights.


ONE-ON-ONE with the punching bag


GETTING ready for powerboxing

STATE-OF-THE-ART diagnostic equipment can take full spine X-rays with a single exposure. X-rays in the clinic enable the doctors to quickly detect the problem.

DR. Mavi Tangco evaluates the shoulder problem of basketball player Eric Reyes.

THIS specialized machine combines both the beneficial effects of ultrasound and gentle electric currents to stimulate the healing of injured area.

Alternative cure for sports, exercise injuries

The field of holistic medicine flourishes most where conventional medicine is not as successful

From page C8

circulation to remove the inflammatory enzymes. Tight areas are loosened up through massage. Affected areas are then treated with the Transcutaneous Nerve Stimulation, a machine that blocks pain signals from the nerves to the brain. This is followed by an ultrasound machine whose waves penetrate deeply into the tissues and joints, especially inflamed tendons.

Treating back pain

Low back pain tops the list of complaints, yet it is treated least effectively by conventional medicine. Back pain as the main point of alternative therapies is in keeping with the premise that the field of holistic medicine flourishes most where conventional medicine is not as successful. Back pain is usually a problem in such sports as golf, tennis, volleyball and weight training. Even in sedentary jobs, office workers feel the low back strain resulting from long hours of sitting.

The preferred treatment for low back pain is not bed rest or medication but manipulation, which is performed by a doctor of chiropractic.

"There are people who come to us with surgical diagnosis made on the low back. The slipped disc is the most common. We've saved people from back surgery using a combination protocol—sports medicine, physical therapy, acupuncture and myotherapy," says Dr. Camara.

Other common complaints are ankle sprains, lateral epicondylitis (tennis elbow) and knee pains. However, most of Intercare's patients who complain of knee pains are the elderly.

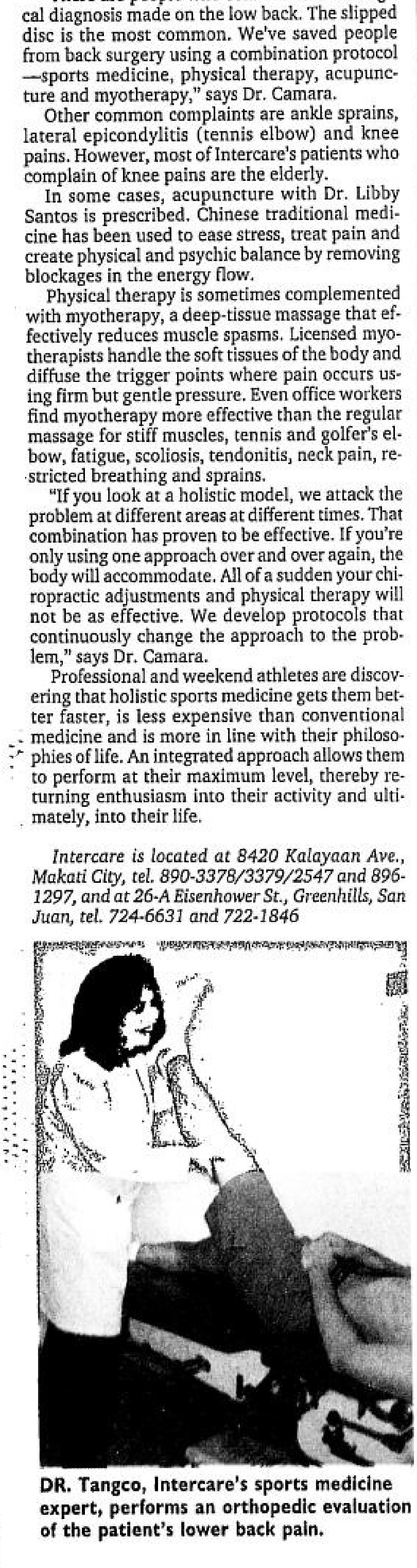
In some cases, acupuncture with Dr. Libby Santos is prescribed. Chinese traditional medicine has been used to ease stress, treat pain and create physical and psychic balance by removing blockages in the energy flow.

Physical therapy is sometimes complemented with myotherapy, a deep-tissue massage that effectively reduces muscle spasms. Licensed myotherapists handle the soft tissues of the body and diffuse the trigger points where pain occurs using firm but gentle pressure. Even office workers find myotherapy more effective than the regular massage for stiff muscles, tennis and golfer's elbow, fatigue, scoliosis, tendonitis, neck pain, restricted breathing and sprains.

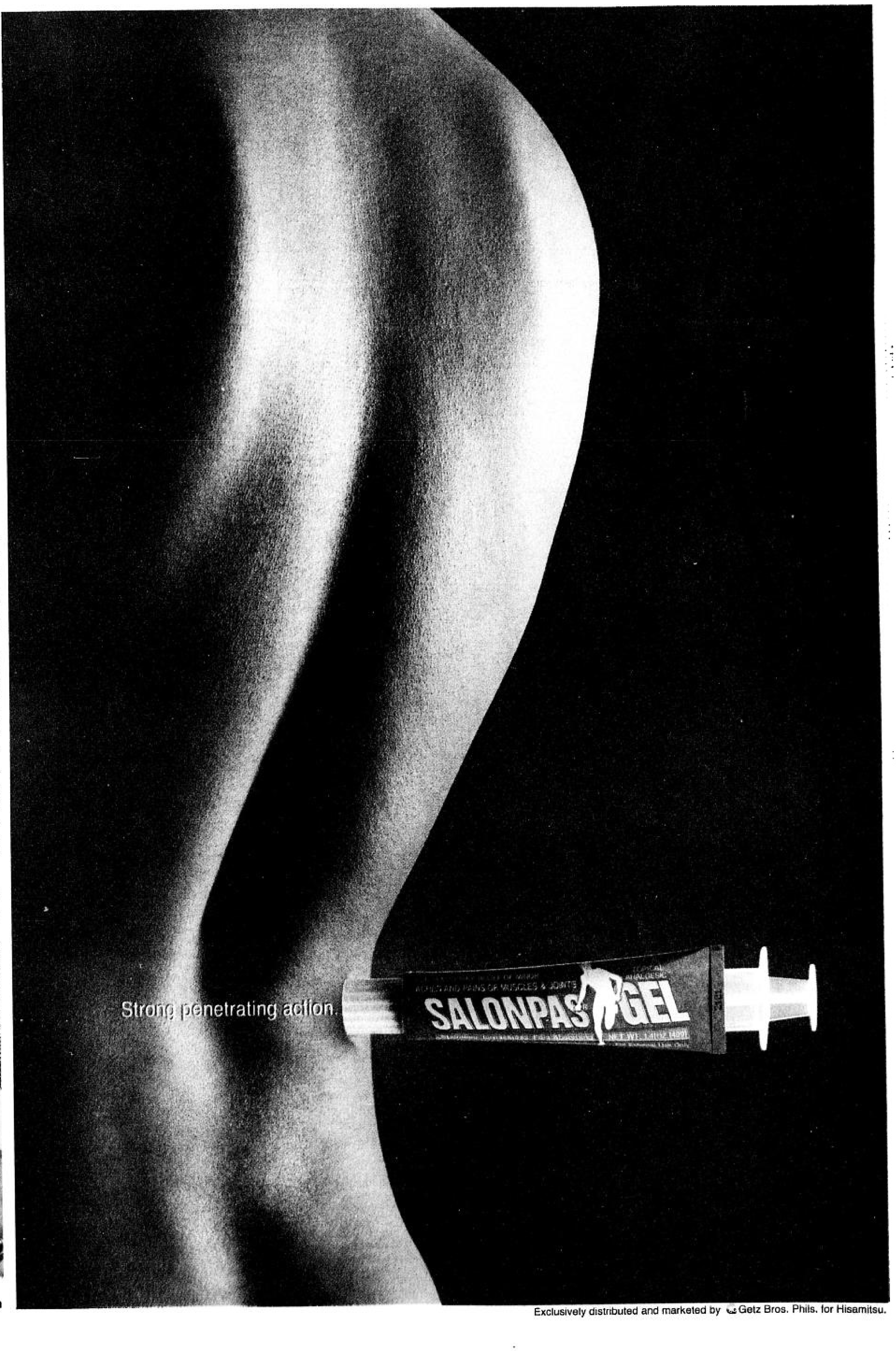
"If you look at a holistic model, we attack the problem at different areas at different times. That combination has proven to be effective. If you're only using one approach over and over again, the body will accommodate. All of a sudden your chiropractic adjustments and physical therapy will not be as effective. We develop protocols that continuously change the approach to the problem," says Dr. Camara.

Professional and weekend athletes are discovering that holistic sports medicine gets them better faster, is less expensive than conventional medicine and is more in line with their philosophies of life. An integrated approach allows them to perform at their maximum level, thereby returning enthusiasm into their activity and ultimately, into their life.

Intercare is located at 8420 Kalayaan Ave., Makati City, tel. 890-3378/3379/2547 and 896-1297, and at 26-A Eisenhower St., Greenhills, San Juan, tel. 724-6631 and 722-1846



DR. Tangco, Intercare's sports medicine expert, performs an orthopedic evaluation of the patient's lower back pain.

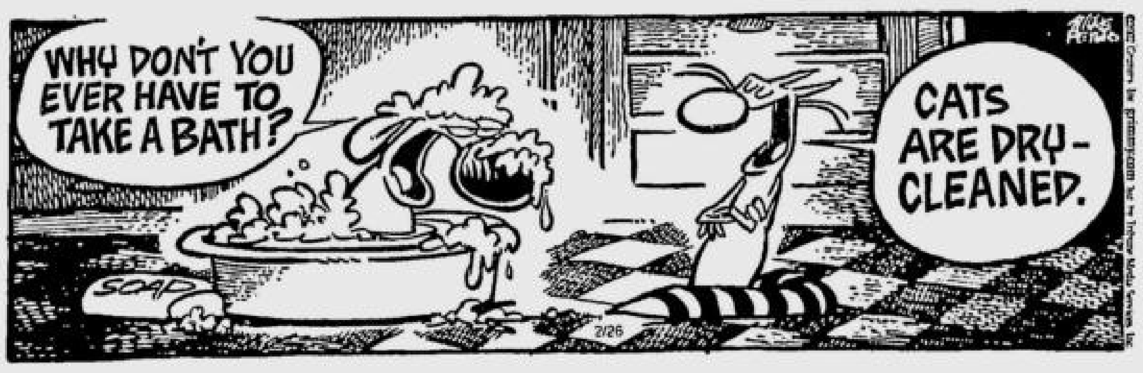


Exclusively distributed and marketed by Getz Bros. Phils. for Hisamitsu.

ComicRelief

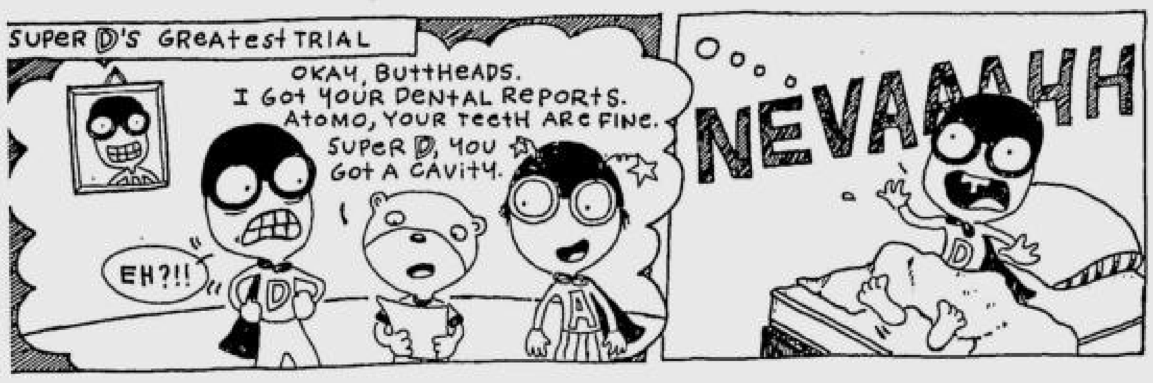
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


WHY DON'T YOU EVER HAVE TO TAKE A BATH?
CATS ARE DRY-CLEANED.
SOAP
2/26

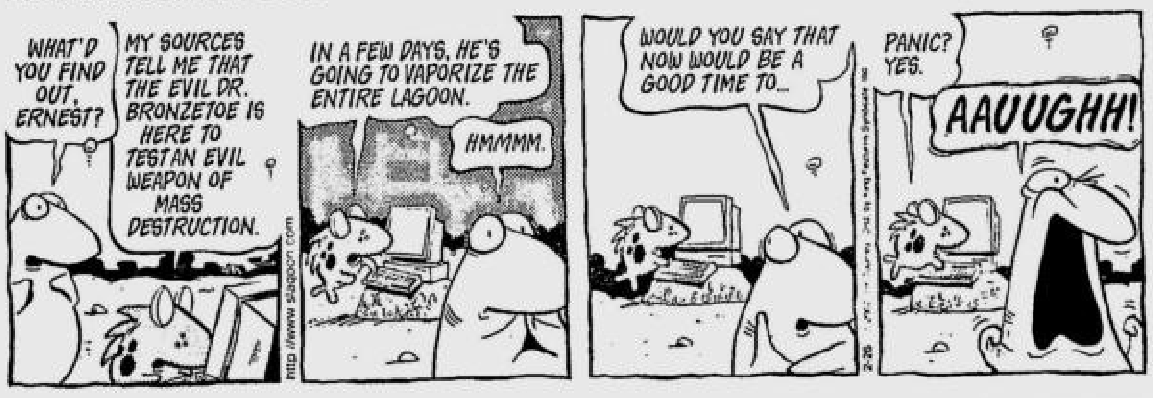
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


SUPER D'S GREATEST TRIAL
OKAY, BUTTHEADS. I GOT YOUR DENTAL REPORTS. ATOMO, YOUR TEETH ARE FINE. SUPER D, YOU GOT A CAVITY.
EH?!!
NEVAAAHH

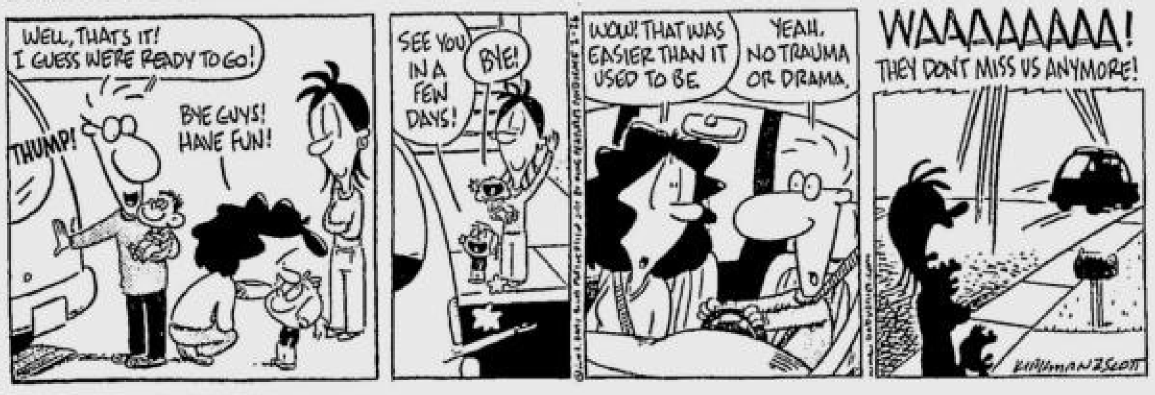
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


WHAT'D YOU FIND OUT, ERNEST?
MY SOURCES TELL ME THAT THE EVIL DR. BRONZETOE IS HERE TO TEST AN EVIL WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION.
IN A FEW DAYS, HE'S GOING TO VAPORIZE THE ENTIRE LAGOON.
HMMMM.
WOULD YOU SAY THAT NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO...
PANIC? YES.
AAUUGHH!
http://www.slagoon.com

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


WELL, THAT'S IT! I GUESS WE'RE READY TO GO!
THUMP!
BYE GUYS! HAVE FUN!
SEE YOU IN A FEW DAYS!
BYE!
WOW! THAT WAS EASIER THAN IT USED TO BE.
YEAH. NO TRAUMA OR DRAMA.
WAAAAAAAA! THEY DON'T MISS US ANYMORE!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michael Bolton, Tony Randall, Johnny Cash, Fats Domino

Happy Birthday: Your insight into future trends will enable you to make the right choices for yourself as well as for others. Think twice before you give in to overindulgence. You have so much to gain if you play the game straight and everything to lose if you don't. Your numbers are 2, 14, 20, 36, 44, 49

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You've got it all worked out in your mind, so get started and make all those improvements you've been contemplating.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will end up in a tough financial spot if you don't stop spending. Family members will not be pleased with you if you have squandered their money.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): This is not the day to turn down an invitation no matter what. Someone who could end up being very special to you is likely to tag along.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put your heart and soul into whatever projects you are working on today. You stand to make a breakthrough if you are relentless in your pursuits. Stop being negative

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You have a choice today. You can let things get to you emotionally and become totally stressed out or you can take action and make plans to do that will take your mind off your worries.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look behind you today. Someone may be trying to put one over on you. Listen carefully and get any promises in writing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't sit at home being lazy; get out and attend events that will bring you in contact with people who will spark enthusiasm in you. Moneymaking opportunities are present.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't count on something that isn't finalized. Take a close look at contracts and agreements and make sure that you are getting what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get involved in a sports club or take a course on travel and you will meet very interesting people. Your imagination is vivid so don't limit yourself. Put all your ideas on paper.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be careful where you put your cash. Fast cash schemes are not likely to pan out. Don't get coerced into joint ventures with someone who is pushing you to give him or her money.

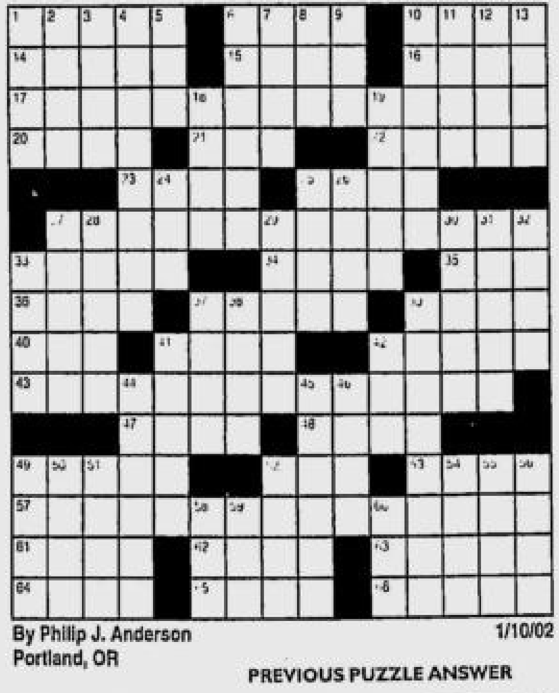
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be feeling a little left out today if someone you care about is doing his or her own thing. Focus on doing something with a friend or get involved in a group.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let anything or anyone bother you. Focus on yourself and your own well-being. Take time out to nurture yourself. Eat properly, get lots of exercise and rest.

Birthday Baby: You adapt easily to change. You need to have challenges in your life that will keep you on your toes. You tend to worry about everything but you also are quite adept when it comes to fixing what's wrong.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



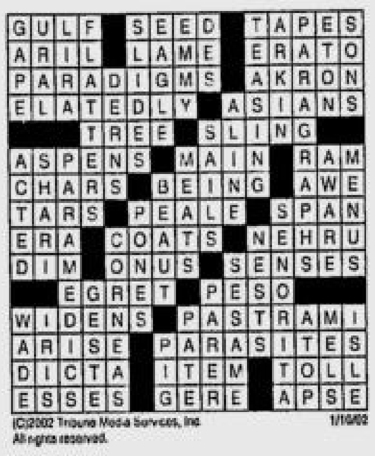
By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

1/10/02

ACROSS
1 Raise trivial objections
6 Self-satisfied
10 Hacks
14 Coeur d'__, ID
15 Inner Hebrides island
16 Assist in wrongdoing
17 Charger
20 Not in favor of
21 Neither Rep. nor Dem.
22 Foley or Glasgow
23 Be concerned
25 Taj Mahal location
27 Charger
33 Computer communicator
34 Verve
35 Go quickly
36 Filled with wonder
37 "Olympia" painter
39 Surrender formally
40 Theol. belief
41 Flit
42 Suffering ennui
43 Charger
47 Red, black and army followers
48 Drying kiln
49 Cassia plant
52 Extinguished
53 Art Deco designer
57 Charger
61 First-rate
62 Facility
63 For all to hear
64 Romanov title
65 Hoople's oath
66 Actress Annie

DOWN
1 Spanish home
2 Economist Greenspan
3 Jacket slit
4 Charged with a crime
5 Luau souvenir
6 Check endorser
7 State of mind
8 Actress Merkel
9 Mobster's rod
10 Coloratura soprano Maria
11 Cain's brother
12 __-noire (bugbear)
13 British gun
18 Emerald Isle
19 Marsh wader
24 $ dispenser
25 Up to the task
26 USNA mascot
27 Leafy shelter
28 One of the Astaires
29 Busybody
30 Over yonder
31 Down
32 Marsh plant
33 "Blue Horses" painter
37 Groening or Damon
38 Trajectories
39 Lou or Elvis
41 Shore or Washington
42 Public conveyance
44 Peril
45 Directed
46 Information
49 Card game for three
50 Baseball's Slaughter
51 Singer Simone
52 Peak in Greece
54 Melee
55 Racetrack figure
56 Some linemen
58 Golf-hole starting point
59 Downswing
60 Once around the track

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



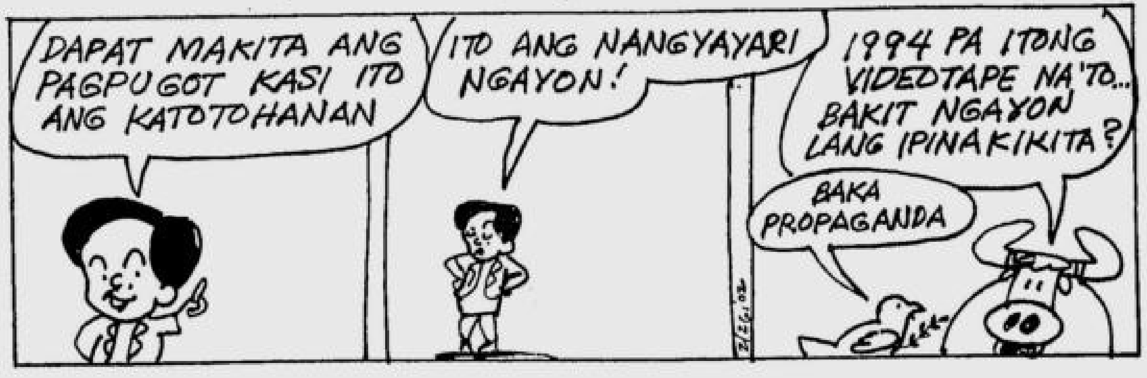
G	U	L	F	■	S	E	E	D	■	T	A	P	E	S
A	R	I	L	■	L	A	M	E	■	E	R	A	T	O
P	A	R	A	D	I	G	M	S	■	A	K	R	O	N
E	L	A	T	E	D	L	Y	■	A	S	I	A	N	S
■	■	■	T	R	E	E	■	S	L	I	N	G	■	■
A	S	P	E	N	S	■	M	A	I	N	■	R	A	M
C	H	A	R	S	■	B	E	I	N	G	■	A	W	E
T	A	R	S	■	P	E	A	L	E	■	S	P	A	N
E	R	A	■	C	O	A	T	S	■	N	E	H	R	U
D	I	M	■	O	N	U	S	■	S	E	N	S	E	S
■	■	E	G	R	E	T	■	P	E	S	O	■	■	■
W	I	D	E	N	S	■	P	A	S	T	R	A	M	I
A	R	I	S	E	■	P	A	R	A	S	I	T	E	S
D	I	C	T	A	■	I	T	E	M	■	T	O	L	L
E	S	S	E	S	■	G	E	R	E	■	A	P	S	E

(C)2002 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

1/10/02

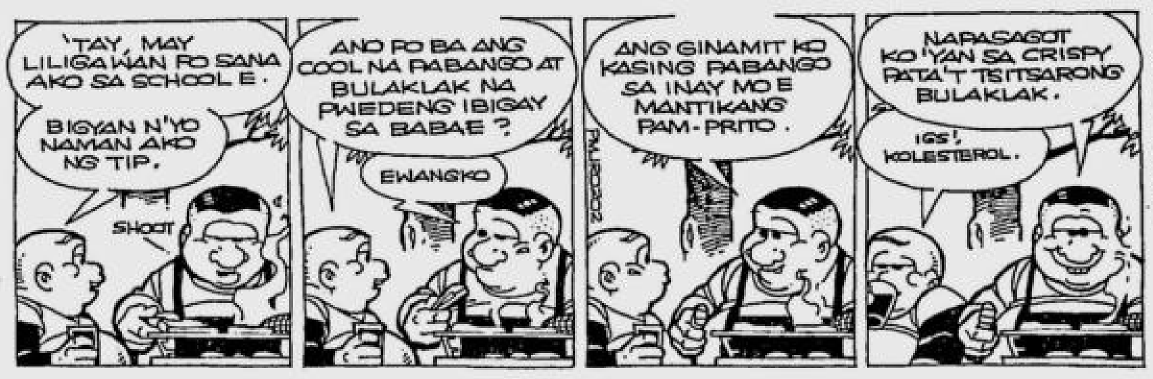
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


DAPAT MAKITA ANG PAGPUGOT KASI ITO ANG KATOTOHANAN
ITO ANG NANGYAYARI NGAYON!
1994 PA ITONG VIDEOTAPE NA'TO... BAKIT NGAYON LANG IPINAKIKITA?
BAKA PROPAGANDA

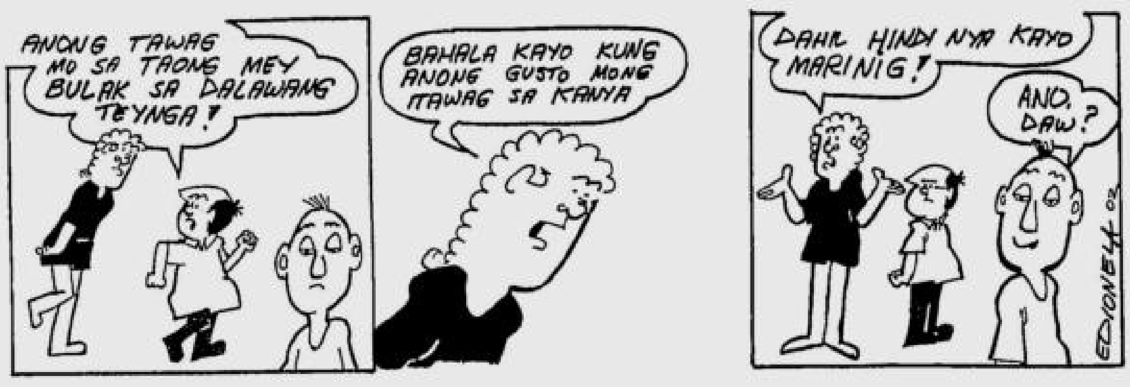
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


'TAY, MAY LILIGAWAN PO SANA AKO SA SCHOOL E.
BIGYAN N'YO NAMAN AKO NG TIP.
SHOOT
ANO PO BA ANG COOL NA PABANGO AT BULAKLAK NA PWEDENG IBIGAY SA BABAE?
EWANGKO
ANG GINAMIT KO KASING PABANGO SA INAY MO E MANTIKANG PAM-PRITO.
NAPASAGOT KO 'YAN SA CRISPY PATA'T TSITSARONG BULAKLAK.
IGS!, KOLESTEROL.

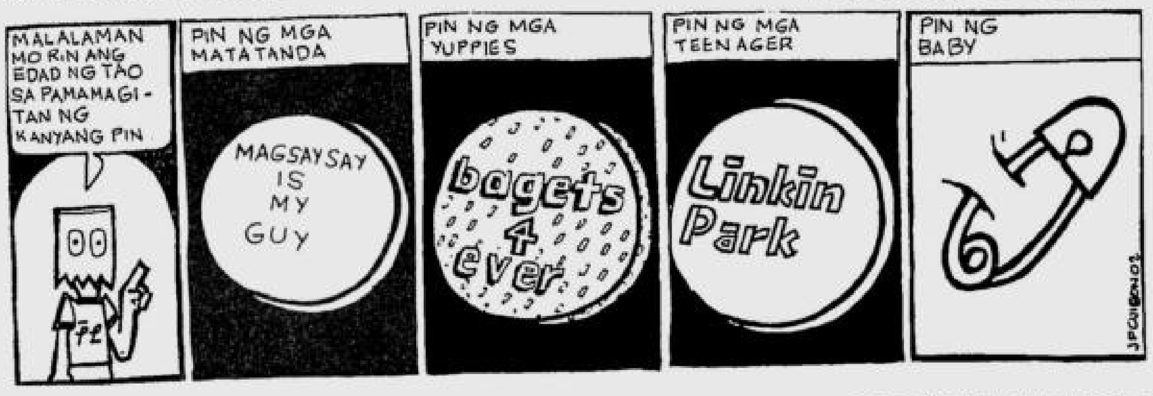
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


ANONG TAWAG MO SA TAONG MEY BULAK SA DALAWANG TEYNGA?
BAHALA KAYO KUNG ANONG GUSTO MONG ITAWAG SA KANYA
DAHIL HINDI NYA KAYO MARINIG!
ANO, DAW?
EDIONELA 02

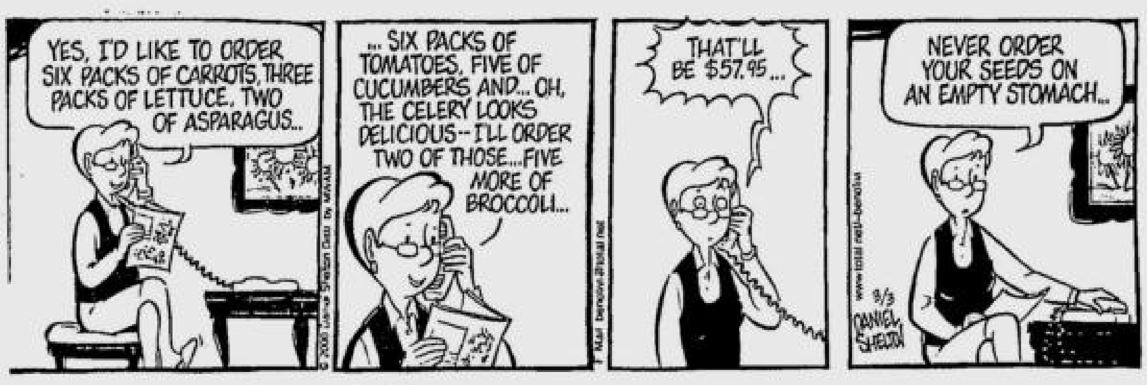
GARAPATA BLOOD

BY JOHN PAUL CUISON


MALALAMAN MO RIN ANG EDAD NG TAO SA PAMAMAGITAN NG KANYANG PIN
PIN NG MGA MATATANDA
MAGSAYSAY IS MY GUY
PIN NG MGA YUPPIES
bagets 4 ever
PIN NG MGA TEENAGER
Linkin Park
PIN NG BABY
JPCUISON 02

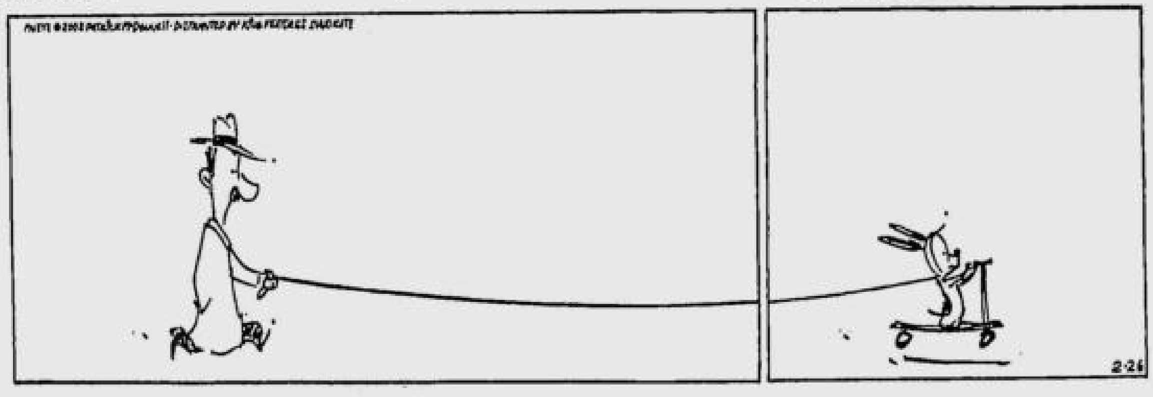
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


YES, I'D LIKE TO ORDER SIX PACKS OF CARROTS, THREE PACKS OF LETTUCE, TWO OF ASPARAGUS...
... SIX PACKS OF TOMATOES, FIVE OF CUCUMBERS AND... OH, THE CELERY LOOKS DELICIOUS -- I'LL ORDER TWO OF THOSE... FIVE MORE OF BROCCOLI...
THAT'LL BE $57.95...
NEVER ORDER YOUR SEEDS ON AN EMPTY STOMACH...
DANIEL SHELTON

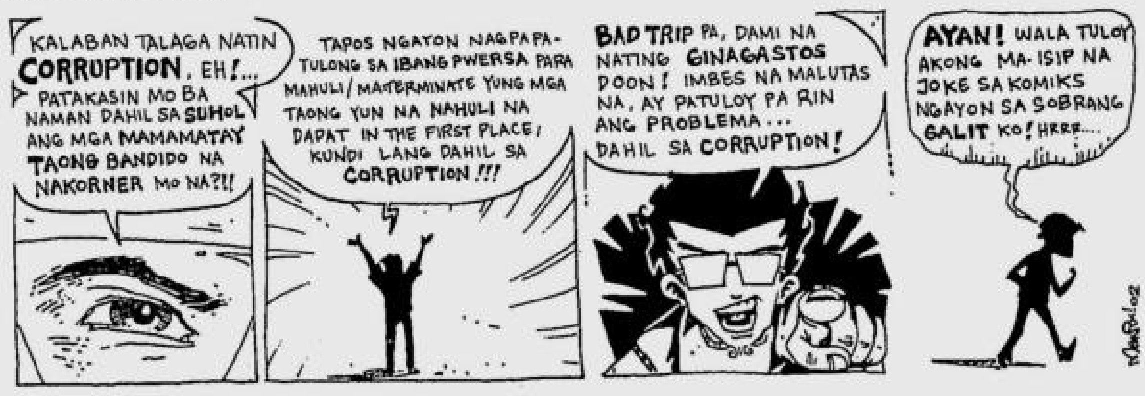
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL



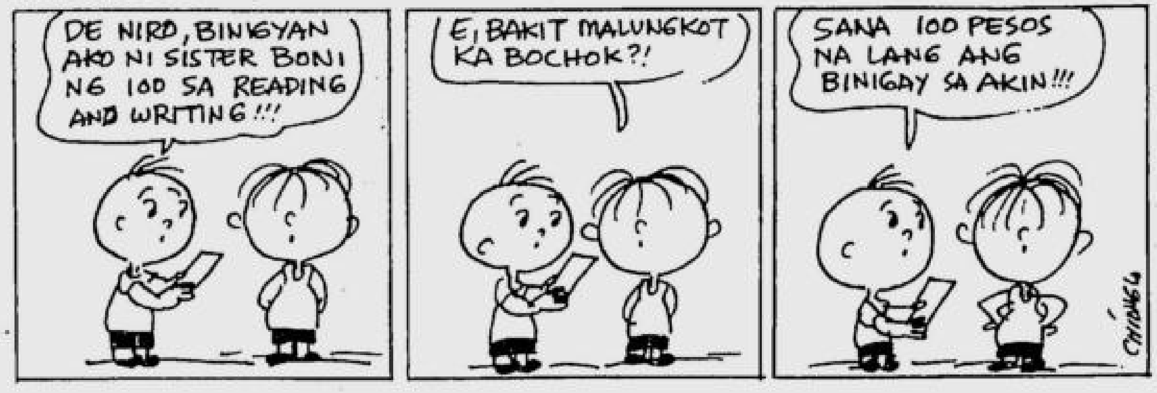
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


KALABAN TALAGA NATIN CORRUPTION, EH!... PATAKASIN MO BA NAMAN DAHIL SA SUHOL ANG MGA MAMAMATAY TAONG BANDIDO NA NAKORNER MO NA?!!
TAPOS NGAYON NAGPAPATULONG SA IBANG PWERSA PARA MAHULI/MASTERMINATE YUNG MGA TAONG YUN NA NAHULI NA DAPAT IN THE FIRST PLACE, KUNDI LANG DAHIL SA CORRUPTION!!!
BAD TRIP PA, DAMI NA NATING GINAGASTOS DOON! IMBES NA MALUTAS NA, AY PATULOY PA RIN ANG PROBLEMA... DAHIL SA CORRUPTION!
AYAN! WALA TULOY AKONG MA-ISIP NA JOKE SA KOMIKS NGAYON SA SOBRANG GALIT KO! HRRR...

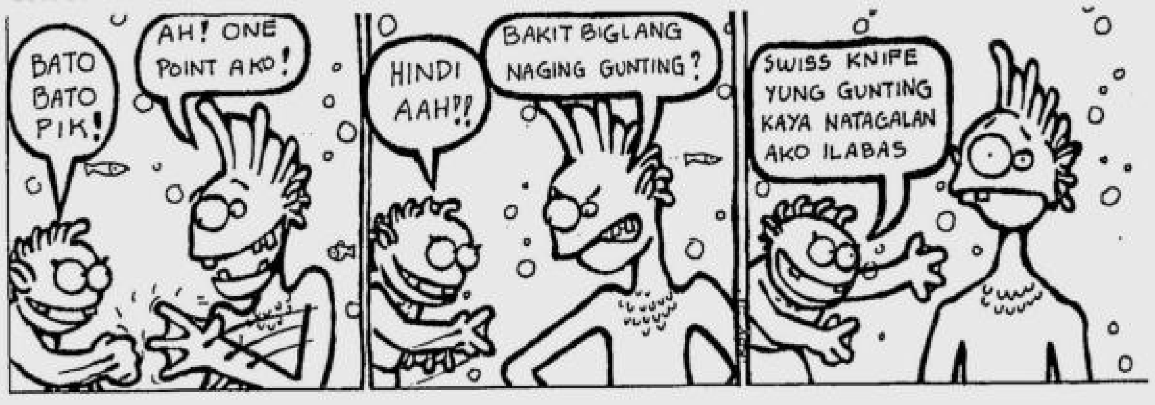
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


DE NIRO, BINIGYAN AKO NI SISTER BONI NG 100 SA READING AND WRITING!!!
E, BAKIT MALUNGKOT KA BOCHOK?!
SANA 100 PESOS NA LANG ANG BINIGAY SA AKIN!!!
CHIONGLO

CHICHOY CHOKOY

BY IKOY RICIO


BATO BATO PIK!
AH! ONE POINT AKO!
HINDI AAH?!
BAKIT BIGLANG NAGING GUNTING?
SWISS KNIFE YUNG GUNTING KAYA NATAGALAN AKO ILABAS

Growing interest in paranormal phenomena

Educated urbanites tend to be closet psychics but some academics are waking up to the reality of the unseen world and the need to study it

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

I HAVE just recently come back from Iloilo City where I conducted my second public seminar. The first time I went there, in October 2001, I discovered that many professional Ilongos were very interested in paranormal and mystical phenomena but were keeping this a secret from relatives and friends for fear of being labeled "cuckoo" or "weird." This is true for most educated urban people I've met everywhere.

Participants discovered during the seminar that there are many of them who are quietly studying the field. My presence emboldened them to come out of the closet and reveal their true interests. There was even a couple, very active in the Catholic Charismatic movement, who attended the seminar and joined us on a side trip to Guimaras Island. The husband told me that although they were very religious and adhered to Church teachings, they could not see anything wrong in knowing more about paranormal phenomena that they had experienced many times. I told them the Christian Bible was full of stories of a paranormal and psychic nature, but they had not been given the attention they deserved. Every great religion started with an encounter with a paranormal event or supernatural being. There is no exception to this. So I told him I found no incompatibility between paranormal phenomena and any religious belief.

Two sides

I have always held the view that our Filipino culture (and perhaps any culture, for that matter) has two sides to it. The first is the outward culture that is considered mainstream and studied in schools of higher learning. The other is the hidden side of culture that is completely ignored by science and academic people but which is embraced by the common *tao*.

I discovered that Iloilo is no exception to this. I found out there are practicing healers, psychics, exorcists and those who can tell the future through palm reading and the Tarot cards. Interest in the field is strong but quiet because of fear of social and religious stigma.

When people learned I was around, they were no longer afraid to reveal their experiences, knowing I will understand and will not laugh at or criticize them. There was a young woman who could see and talk to invisible spirits, a medical student who was studying the occult and paranormal sciences, and a businesswoman who sold occult paraphernalia in a hotel shopping mall.

I found it amusing that my recent Iloilo seminar was booked in the same hotel where the militant Catholic religious group, Opus Dei, was holding a big conference on "Responsible Parenting." A large streamer of my seminar on "Soul Mates, Karma and Reincarnation" was prominently displayed at the hotel entrance above the streamer of the religious group.

During their break, two female delegates came over to my seminar room to consult me about certain problems involving strange events. One of them has a daughter who is under psychiatric treatment for odd behavior, but which the mother feels is a case of spirit possession. Medications given her are not of much help and the husband is about to give up on her. Since it is difficult to diagnose a case without actually seeing the person involved, I referred her to somebody she could consult.

What I have observed is that there is a growing interest in studying this field in a more systematic or scientific manner. A Metro Manila university president talked to me several months ago because he was interested in incorporating parapsychology in their nursing, psychology and business classes. He is also thinking of establishing a paranormal research center attached to the university. So, not everything is hopeless in this field. Some people in the academic world are waking up to the reality of the unseen world and the need to study it systematically.

Address letters to this column to 308 Prince Plaza 1, 106 Legaspi St., Greenbelt, Makati City or e-mail jlicauco@geocities.com. Visit www.angelfire.com/journal/licauco. Listen to my dzMM radio program every Sunday, 6-8 p.m.

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Chasing the blues away

Confront your fears and get rid of those eye bags

INSIDE OUT

Cory Quirino

BLUE is the color you paint your mood when things do not seem to be going your way. Downright depressed, you just can't seem to keep the doldrums away, no matter what you do. So you engage in the most natural thing—wallow in your misery.

It's okay

Most counselors say that wallowing in one's misery is therapy for a broken heart or a diminished spirit. There's a catch, however. You may wallow—but within a certain period. Twenty-four to 72 hours are enough to ease your pain or to stroke your bruised ego. But when you've reached your deadline, you've got to bounce back. Try this fun exercise which is definitely a stress buster.

The magic 'Hah!'

1. Stand with your feet comfortably apart, your hands on your hips (as in a confrontational stance—the reason being that you must prepare yourself psychologically to "face your enemy"—your own fears.)
2. With your eyes fixed on the horizon, begin your breathing exercise. Inhale and exhale through the nose.
3. Visualize the person or situation that is causing your distress.
4. Feel your anger, pain or frustration.
5. Cover this visualization with a gray cloud or mist.
6. Imagine that this cloud is moving toward your mouth.
7. Hold that vision. Invoke the feeling without violence.
8. With a loud "Hah!" expel the dark cloud by spitting out your stress into the ground. Watch it being absorbed by the earth and disappear into oblivion.
9. You can no longer feel the pain inside you.

ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

The feeling of tightness after doing the magic "Hah!" is inevitable and almost incredible. Try it on your favorite stressor. Because stress can build up in your system, you will dig up a lot of past hurts stored in your psyche.

The eyes have it

Stressful situations can give sleepless nights that cause dark circles under the eyes. As windows to one's soul, the eyes mirror your moods and feelings. After a stressful experience, you should now treat those eye bags.

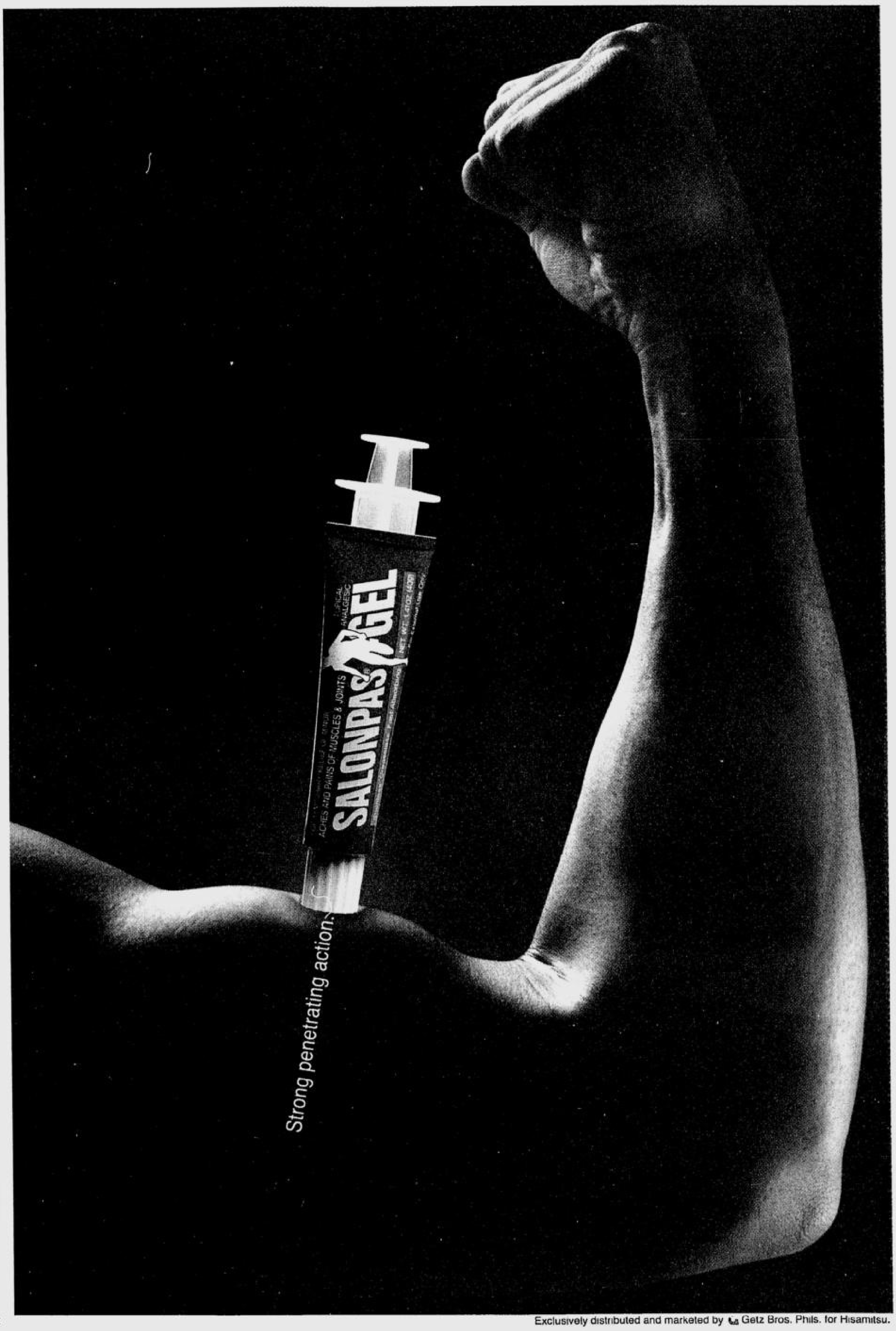
Eye relief

2 rose petals (any color) or
2 tea bags (preferably mint)
Bowl of iced water
Cold compress (optional)

Dip the rose petals (wash carefully to remove chemicals) or the tea bags in iced water. Place on your closed lids while relaxing on a chair or sofa. For extra coolness, you may apply a cold compress. Leave for 5-7 minutes. Think happy thoughts.

After pampering your body and soul, cheer up. You're now ready to face another day with renewed hope in your heart.

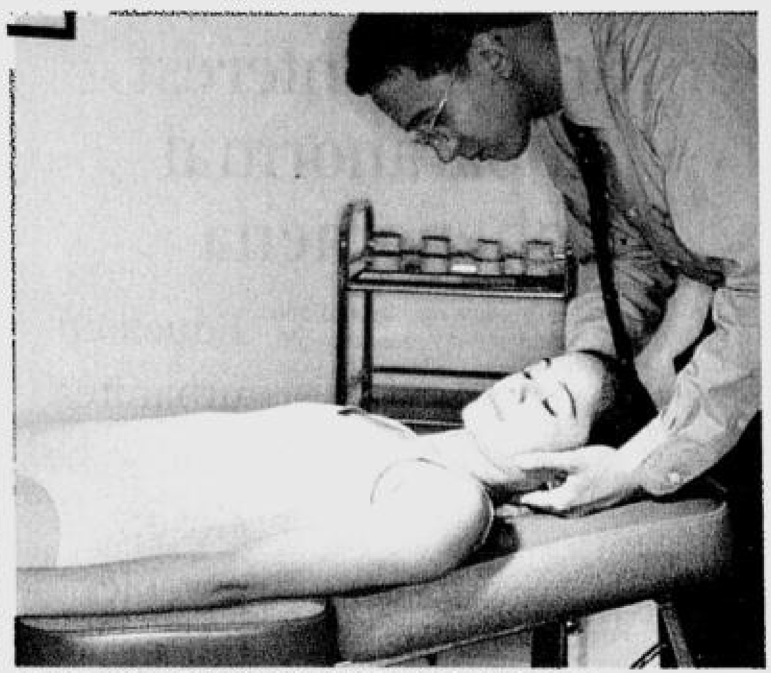
E-mail the author at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph


SALONPAS GEL
TOPICAL ANALGESIC
ACHES AND PAINS OF MUSCLES & JOINTS
Strong penetrating action.

Exclusively distributed and marketed by Getz Bros. Phils. for Hisamitsu.

DR. Martin Camara gives dancer Katherine Sanchez a side posture adjustment. This relieves inflamed nerves in the back caused by a slipped disc or back strain.

DR. Camara adjusts the thoracic spine and lower part of the neck to relieve shoulder pain, tight neck and stiffness.



ADJUSTING the patient's neck to treat headaches.

Alternative cure for sports, exercise injuries

By Marge C. Enriquez
Photos by Neal Oshima

WITH STRESS caused by a hurried lifestyle, people are turning to recreational sports and dancing for some relief because they increase adrenaline. However, when exercise or sport performance is compromised in an injury, so is life.

In the late '80s, with the popularity of high-impact aerobics, there grew a need for professionals who specialize in the care and prevention of athletic injuries. The demand gave rise to sports medicine centers.

In the United States, many sports and fitness enthusiasts are turning to holistic sports medicine when conventional medicine fails to relieve symptoms. For answers to their questions on well-being, they are turning to chiropractic, acupuncture and deep-tissue massage therapy. In the Philippines, Intercare Healthcare Systems provides an integrated approach that uses various natural-healing methods, including counseling.

Conditioning

Dr. Martin Camara, Intercare's proponent, says the clinic has two kinds of patients: those who want to increase their level of performance and those in crisis.

Intercare has developed conditioning programs for people who want to improve in their sports. "There are people who don't have any injuries but would like to improve their performance by working on the muscles, joints and alignments to make sure everything is balanced. When you're properly aligned, your muscles are flexible and strong. The body performs better and you don't get tired," explains Dr. Camara.

"For instance, golf or tennis movements are unnatural. The body is designed to move back and forth. Some movements are not very good. In golf and tennis, you rotate around your low back and you flex your back forward. That combined motion is not good for the back. Most injuries are cumulative effects of small bad habits that add up over time. The purpose of the conditioning program is to break up the cumulative effect of these damaging activities before it becomes a problem."

However, most people consult the doctors when it's too late.

Dr. Camara says many of their patients are people with a specific complaint. "People tend to be crisis-oriented," he noted.

Intercare has developed an art to promote well-being. The program starts with an evaluation consisting of muscle testing and a range of motions. The doctor identifies the muscular imbalances and determines the areas to build to restore the wellness and bring the body back to balance. Patients who merely want to increase their sports performance are given exercises to strengthen the muscles used in their sports.

Natural healing

For injuries, patients undergo rehabilitation. The doctors don't prescribe drugs or painkillers. Intercare believes that the body can heal itself.

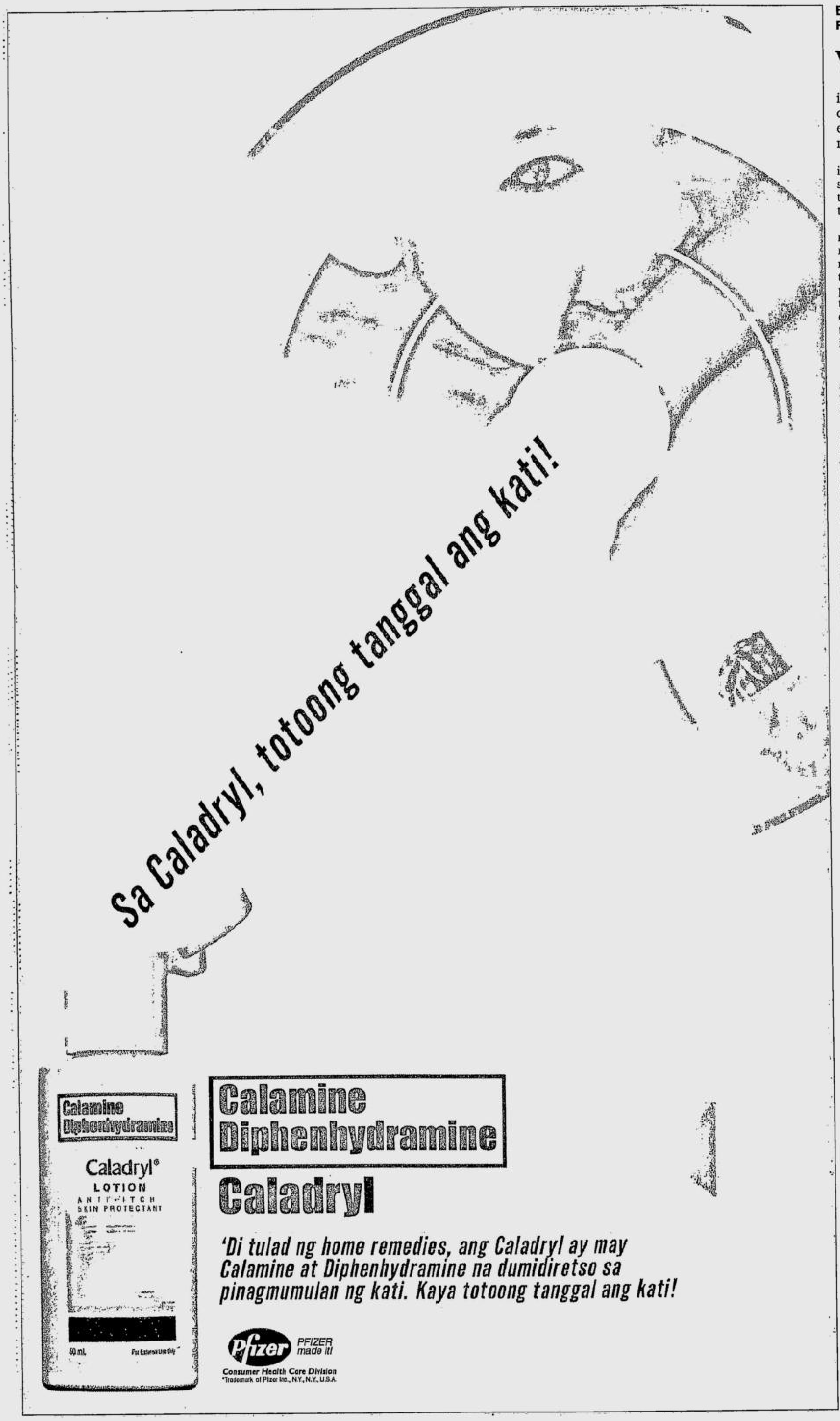
"We are using natural healing elements to treat pain, like heat and hands," says Dr. Ma. Victoria Tangco, who specializes in rehabilitation and sports medicine. Heat treatment ranges from heating pads to ultrasound. For manual treatment, there are chiropractic and myotherapy.

Dr. Camara explains that sports medicine and chiropractic go hand in hand. "In chiropractic, we look at the spine, the alignment of the bones and areas which are not working properly. We introduce a change so that the body can function better. Sports medicine is a method of working with the way the muscles support the tendons and the spine."

When a patient complains of a pulled muscle or a sprain, he undergoes physical therapy. The first thing is to relieve muscle spasms in order to protect the joints. The treatment starts by giving the patient heating pads in the affected areas. The heating relaxes the muscles and increases the

ALTERNATIVE/ p.C5

A LICENSED myotherapist loosens the nodules ("*hangin*") in the muscles of CalCarrie's model Jeanelyn Cuyugan.



Calamine
Diphenhydramine

Caladryl

'Di tulad ng home remedies, ang Caladryl ay may Calamine at Diphenhydramine na dumidiretso sa pinagmumulan ng kati. Kaya totoong tanggal ang kati!

Pfizer PFIZER made it!
Consumer Health Care Division
*Trademark of Pfizer Inc., N.Y., N.Y., U.S.A.

37th ANVIL AWARDS

Public Relations Society of the Philippines

Aggie Pinili Account Manager
sprojects@inquirer.com.ph
Aries Espinosa Editor

MESSAGES

I wish to convey my warmest and sincerest felicitations to the organizers, sponsors and awardees of 37th Anvil Awards.

Let me take this opportunity to extend my sincerest appreciation to the men and women of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines for their continued work in giving due recognition to outstanding Filipino individuals. Your confidence in achievements of our countrymen in the field of public relations reflects your dynamic participation in upholding national pride. I hope this event will greatly inspire our people to contribute to the advancement and development of our country.

I take great pride in our recipients of the Anvil Awards whose exemplary achievements in the field of public relations have greatly contributed in uplifting the lives of our fellowmen and bolstering our country's growth. Indeed, your collective efforts to develop and promote effective PR programs will contribute to the improvement of the public relations profession.

May this event inspire all of you to continue your commitment in giving selfless service to the Filipino people. May it also serve as an impetus for the development and growth of our nation.

Congratulations and Mabuhay!

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines

In modern times public relations has become a rapidly growing field of communications linking practically every aspect of the world's industrial, social, economic, cultural and political life. It is being widely used to advance the concept of business and industry to align themselves with the public interest, and to establish mutually beneficial relationships with its various publics, in a manner that is planned, organized, and systematically presented as to leave no doubt on its sincerity, efficacy and noble motives.

For this reason I congratulate the Public Relations Society of the Philippines for its 37th Anvil Awards, a PR milestone that gathers PR practitioners in the country and their PR programs and tools for a showcase of outstanding works.

I felicitate the PRSP and those who compose the Anvil Awards Committee for your commitment to Philippine progress and your institutional efforts to transform the public relations profession into catalyst of change and an effective instrument of enlightenment to the populace.

I wish you all a very successful Anvil Awards Night.

Congratulations to all the winners!

NOEL C. CABRERA
Press Secretary

The Society, throughout these years, has greatly contributed not only to people's awareness to issues that affect them but also in persuading them to take part in various government and non-government programs.

The sincere efforts of the men and women of the Society are highly commendable. Your patience, endurance, and dedication continue to be the driving force behind the success of this annual prestigious event. The standards you have set bring out the best in the people who make up the world of Public Relations. The superior quality of this year's entries is an attest to this.

It was great honor indeed to have served in the board of judges of the 37th Anvil Awards. Not only was it a pleasant task but also a great learning opportunity.

Congratulations to all the Anvil winners. I hope the recognition you have earned inspire you to further strive for excellence in the performance of your craft.

FELIPE B. ALFONSO
Chairman
Board of Judges

My warmest greetings to all the participants in this year's Anvil Awards!

Special thanks goes to the indefatigable Eduardo S. Alcaraz who chairs this year's Anvil. I congratulate him and his committee members for a job well done!

I also wish to thank our PR colleagues who submitted entries. It was truly a daunting task for our judges to sift through and choose among the many excellent entries in the various competing categories. How I wish we could award all of the noteworthy programs and tools.

And my deep gratitude goes to our Board of Judges who took time out from their busy schedules to sit down and review the Anvil entries. I especially thank the Chair, Mr. Alfonso, for guiding the board through this tedious process.

To the Anvil Committee members, the Secretariat, and many others who have helped us make this Anvil Awards a success, many thanks to all of you.

Mabuhay!

HONESTO M. ISLETA, APR
President
Public Relations Society of the Philippines

Every year, the Anvil Awards elicits a broader attention and response drawing bigger number of entries, as this year proves. They are of magnificent quality and as meaningful and substantive as can be conceived, and for this we salute the participants.

We are elated over the fact that many of the entries displayed great concern for fellowmen, for environment, and for country – cast in the temperament of the times and contemporary issues and developments, giving hope for a better world for us to live in.

Such concerns, and the entries in general, indelibly show the power and influence of the public relations profession, the significant role it is playing in our lives, and, to a great extent, the grasp and capability of our PR practitioners.

I should like to thank the board of judges for their patience and dedication, and all those who have contributed in every way possible for the holding of this annual event.

I thank this year's participants and congratulate the winners for their boundless enthusiasm and creativeness.

EDUARDO S. ALCARAZ
Chairman
37th Anvil Awards Committee

BOARD OF JUDGES

Chairman
Prof. FELIPE B. ALFONSO

Members - PR PROGRAMS
Mr. WINSTON A. MARBELLA, APR
Atty. RICARDO V. PUNO, JR.
Dr. CAYETANO W. PADERANGA, JR.
Mr. JARIUS BONDOC
Mr. JOEL P. PALACIOS
Amb. JESUS P. TAMBUNTING

Members - TOOLS OF PR
Atty. MELVYN S. MARTIN
Mr. DEAN FRANCIS ALFAR
Mr. ALFREDO C. ANTONIO
Prof. ELLEN J. PAGLINAUAN
Ms. JESSICA A. SOHO
Mr. SEVERINO SARMENTA
Mr. PEDRO A. PADRE, JR., APR
Mr. LEONARDO MAGNO

Much-coveted Oscars of PR

THE ANVIL is the Oscar of public relations practice in the Philippines. It is won in competition, awarded by a distinguished multi-sectoral jury to the outstanding public relations programs or projects designed or implemented in the past year.

It is conducted annually by the Public Relations Society of the Philippines. There is no cash award but it is much coveted.

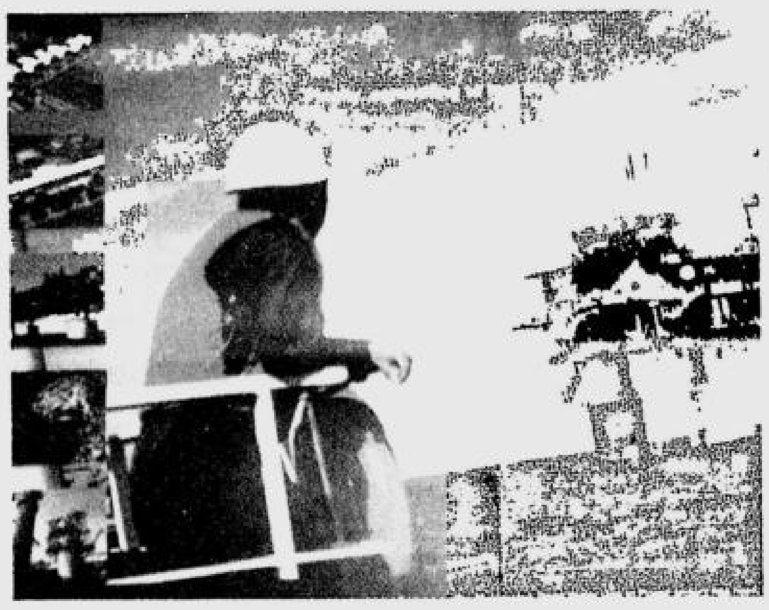
The standards for winning are high. No award is given unless the standards are met.

There are four award categories: The Anvil Award of Merit, The Anvil Award of Excellence, The Bronze Anvil Award and The Grand Anvil Award.

Grand Anvil Award

Malampaya "Birth of Natural Gas Industry"

SHELL PHILIPPINES EXPLORATION B.V. (SPEX)



THE TRAILBLAZING Malampaya Deep Water Gas to Power project represents the largest and most significant industrial investment in the history of the Philippines. It heralds the birth of the country's natural gas industry that will enable the supply of clean, environment-friendly fuel to provide 2,700 megawatts of power to Luzon for a period of 20 years starting January 2002. This meets 30 percent of the country's power generation requirements.

Prior to the development of the project, extensive baseline surveys were undertaken for an Environmental Impact Statement required for the Environmental Compliance Certificates from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. This included, among others, widespread consultation with communities and stakeholders directly affected by the undertaking, helping SPEX in its planning for the project execution.

Prime consideration was given to the route of the 504-km pipeline that reached such kilometrage to about environmentally sensitive areas on land and in water and other identified treasured sites of the country like the burial grounds of the Tagbanua tribe and the pearl farms in the Calamianes group of islands in Northern Palawan.

Also avoided by the pipeline is the island of Mindoro, a renowned bio-geographical region with high diversity and endemicity, and was declared as one of the world's highest priority areas in terms of threatened endemic species and degree of threat by the World Conservation Union.

Sustainable Development in Malampaya

Integral to the planning and execution of Malampaya is Sustainable Development (SD).

Hoping to balance the economic, social and environmental aspects of activities and balancing short term wants with long-term needs, SPEX implemented various social and environmental initiatives in the different areas affected by the project. These included social development self-help projects, health programs, environmental conservation efforts and a Professional Chair in Sustainable Development at the University of Asia and the Pacific which aims to promote SD amongst the government, academe and the private sector in the country.

From the anti-malaria and health charity program in Palawan, to the Bat Habitat Restoration project in Subic and the Biodiversity Conservation program in Mindoro, to the skills enhancement training and livelihood programs in Batangas, sustainable development in Malampaya has resulted into thousands of beneficiaries who will continue to benefit long after the project is completed.

Bronze Anvil Award

ArtPetron Collaterals

PETRON CORPORATION

ARTPETRON
ARTPETRON
1st National Student Art Competition

The Petron calendar is one company public relations project that has brought Filipino art, culture, history and values straight to people's heart and minds.

In 2000, Petron's Marketing Division felt a need to introduce a new thrust into its calendar project, a much-sought-after material that is eagerly awaited by Petron customers all over the country. It needed a concept that was different, and one that would open Petron's sponsorship of the arts and traditions in a unique way. It also had to be one that would bring goodwill and a good corporate image to Petron.

The resulting concept was a national painting competition that would encourage talented Filipino youth to render in oil and watercolor children playing Filipino games. Winning artworks would grace the company's traditional wall calendar which for the first time would feature artwork.

Aptly called ArtPetron: 1^{st} National Student Art Competition, the contest launched Petron as a high-profile patron of the arts. It opened the contest to college and university students and, for the very first time in art competition, also to students enrolled in a museum art program or tutorial art course.

In order to attract the attention of this young target audience, eye-catching PR tools were used to reach as many students as possible. The overwhelming response to the contest was in large due to this array of PR tools (poster, application form/brochure, print ads, order forms, press campaign and radio spots, awards night collaterals, website) that were created for ArtPetron, ensuring its success in its initial year, and encouraging Petron management to push onwards for a second year.

37TH ANVIL AWARDS COMMITTEE

EDUARDO S. ALCARAZ
Chairman

MEMBERS

LOURDES S. DE GUZMAN

RITA R. FESTIN

MA. ASUNCION E. HUGO

MA. VICTORIA C. MEDINA

JURIS UMALI SOLIMAN

EDGAR U. TIMBUNGCO

EVELYN M. DEL ROSARIO, APR
Adviser

Anvil Awards of Excellence

INSTITUTIONAL AND CORPORATE PR PROGRAMS

Public Affairs

Habitat for Humanity Philippines Foundation, Inc.'s World Leaders Build (*Civic Consciousness Category*)

Petron Corp.'s ARTPETRON: 1st National Student Art Competition (*Art & Culture Category*)

Intel Philippines/Agatep Associates, Inc.'s INTEL Teach to the Future (*Science & Technology Advancement Category*)

Program/Project Directed at Specific Stakeholder

Ayala Corp.'s 3rd National Ayala Young Leaders Congress (*Youth Category*)

Petron Foundation, Inc.'s Volunteerism in Action (*Employees & Family Category*)

IBM Philippines' Computer Eyes (*Blinds Category*)

Special Events

Petron Foundation, Inc.'s Celebrating Earth Month / Day (*Nurturing Nature Category*)

Program/Project in Support of Marketing, Advocacy, Corporate Image

Petron Corp.'s Lakbay Alalay 2001 (*Service Category*)

Bank of the Philippine Island's "Did you know?" Series on Philippine Banking (*Advertorial Category*)

Shell Philippines Exploration B.V.'s MALAMPAYA "Birth of Natural Gas Industry" (*Corporate Image Category*)

TOOLS OF PR

Ayala Group of Companies: Unified Annual Reports (*Publications – Annual Report Category*)

GMA Network Inc.'s GMA Gold 50 Years of Broadcast History (*External Publications – Coffeetable Book Category*)

FINEX Ethics Committee & Studio 5 Designs, Inc.'s PARAGONS: 23 CEOs on Corporate Ethics (*External Publications – Coffeetable Book Category*)

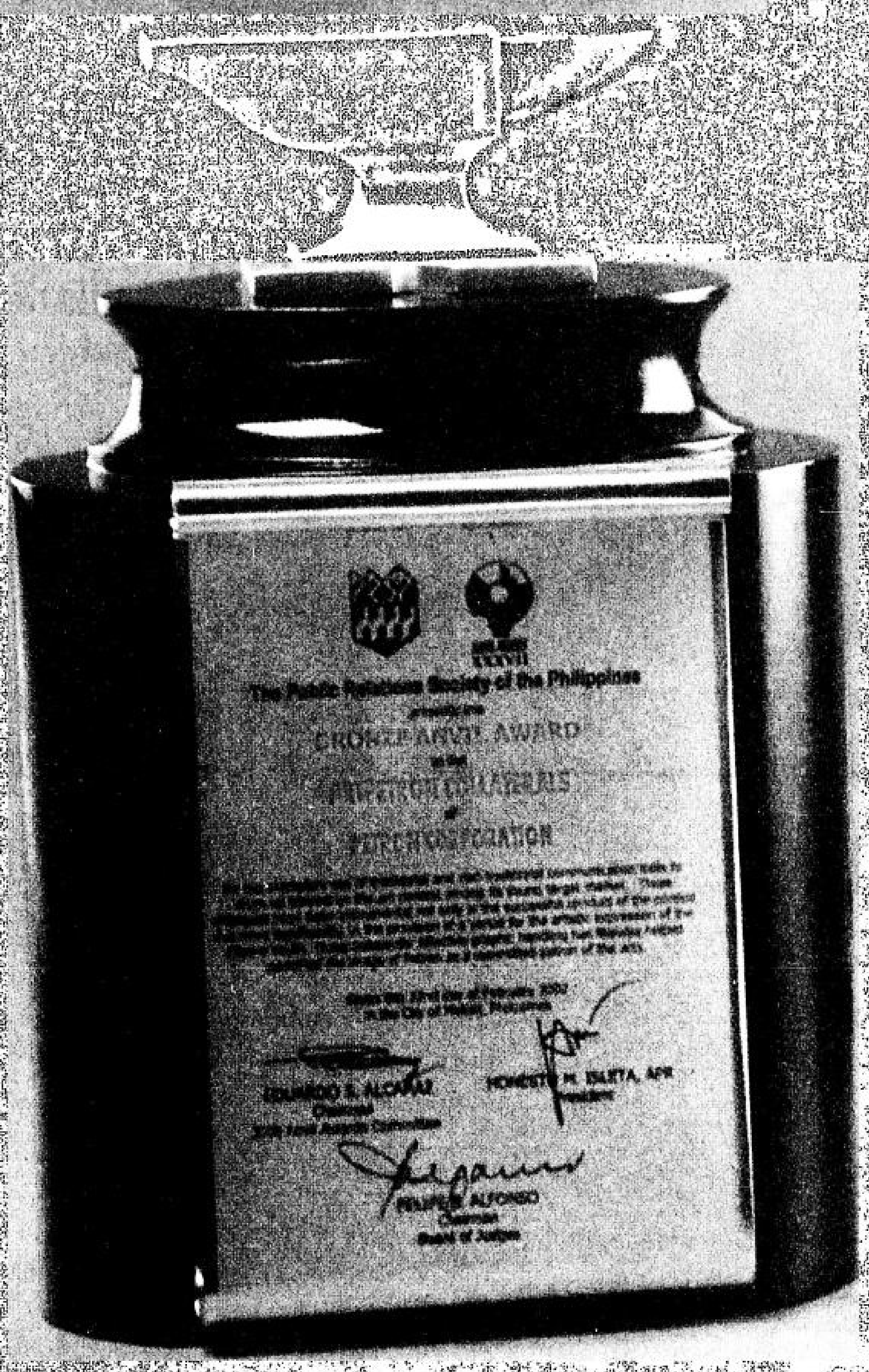
Petron Corp's ARTPETRON Collaterals (*External Publications – Promotional Collaterals Category*)

Philippine Daily Inquirer's Commemorative Address Book (*Special Publications Category*)

Asian Development Bank by Picture Works, Inc.'s Reducing Poverty in Asia and the Pacific (*Electronic & Interactive Media - Audio Visual Presentation Category*)

Petron Corp.'s ARTPETRON Website (*Electronic & Interactive Media - Web Pages Category*)

At the recently concluded 37th Anvil Awards Night of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), Petron Corporation was awarded the BRONZE ANVIL, the highest award for the most outstanding Public Relations Tool, given for the first time. This, together with six Awards of Excellence and an Award of Merit, represents the largest harvest of awards garnered by a single participant to the 37th Anvil Awards competition.



EXCELLEN

PETRON

ARTPETRON COLLATERALS

Bronze Anvil Award

The most outstanding PR Tool for 2001

PETRON
ARTPETRON
1st NATIONAL STUDENT ART COMPETITION
Award of Excellence
Public Affairs Program

PETRON
ARTPETRON WEBSITE
Award of Excellence
Electronic and Interactive Media

PETRON
ARTPETRON COLLATERALS
Award of Excellence
Promotional Collaterals - External Publications

We share these awards with our numerous stakeholders: our employees, their families and the hundreds of volunteers who have given of themselves to the Petron Foundation; the talented youth who enthusiastically joined ArtPetron: 1st National Student Art Competition; our customers, shareholders, dealers, partners and friends who continue to believe in us.

In everything we do, Excellence is our hallmark. After all, it is our only standard.

CE IS OUR STANDARD.

VOLUNTEERISM IN ACTION (Year 2001)
Award of Excellence
for a Program/Project Directed
at a Specific Stakeholder - Employees and Families

LAKBAY ALALAY
Award of Excellence
for a Program/Project in Support of Service

NURTURING NATURE
Award of Excellence
Special Events Project

KONTRA KALAT SA DAGAT (Year 3)
Anvil Award of Merit
Public Affairs Program - Environmental Protection

PROUD TO BE
PETRON

Finally, something to fuel our dreams.

In helping deliver the natural gas industry of the country,
Shell Philippines Exploration B.V. wishes to share with the nation the

2001 GRAND ANVIL AWARD

MALAMPAYA

PNOC